

Highlights of Westbrook History



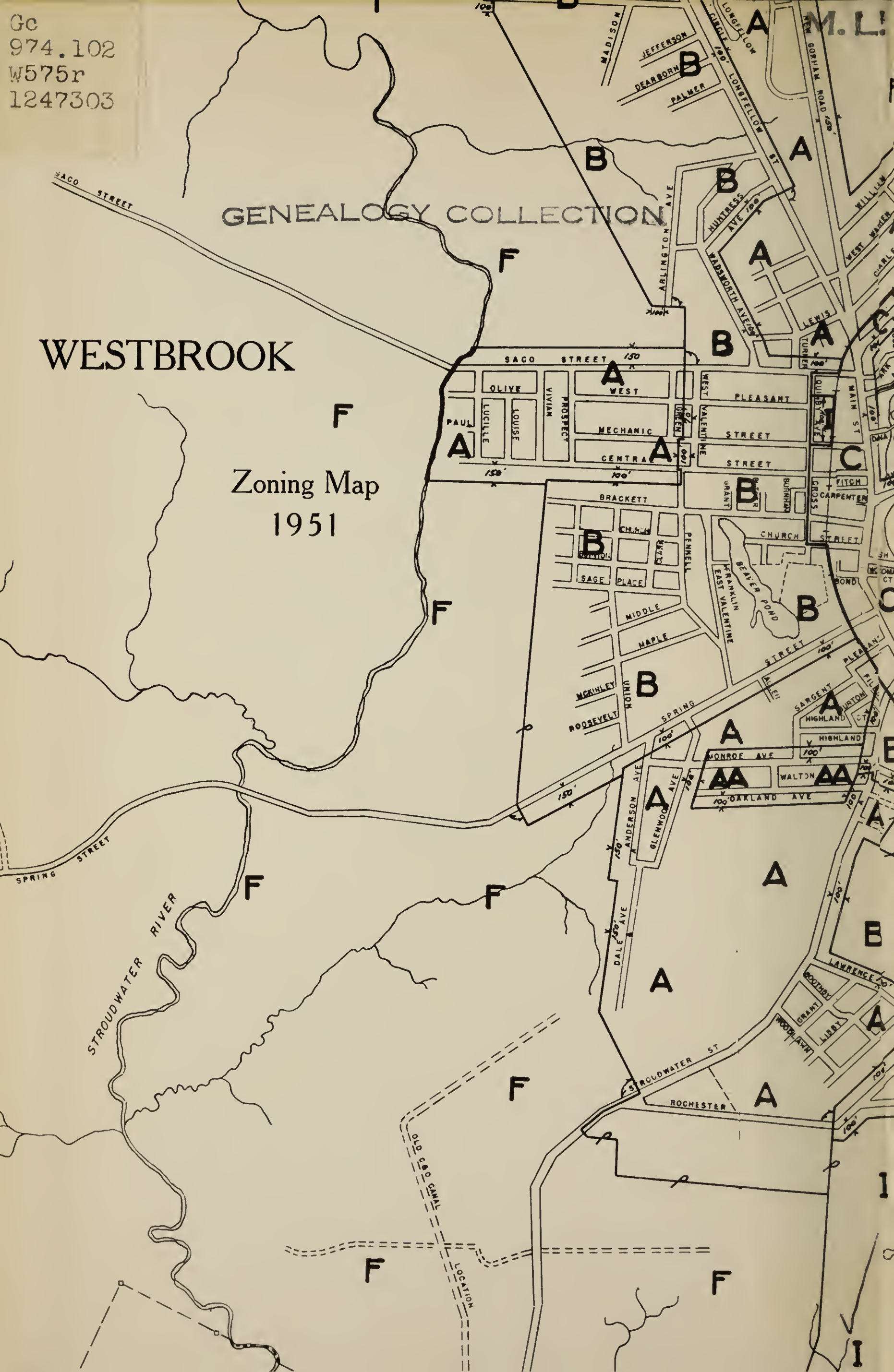
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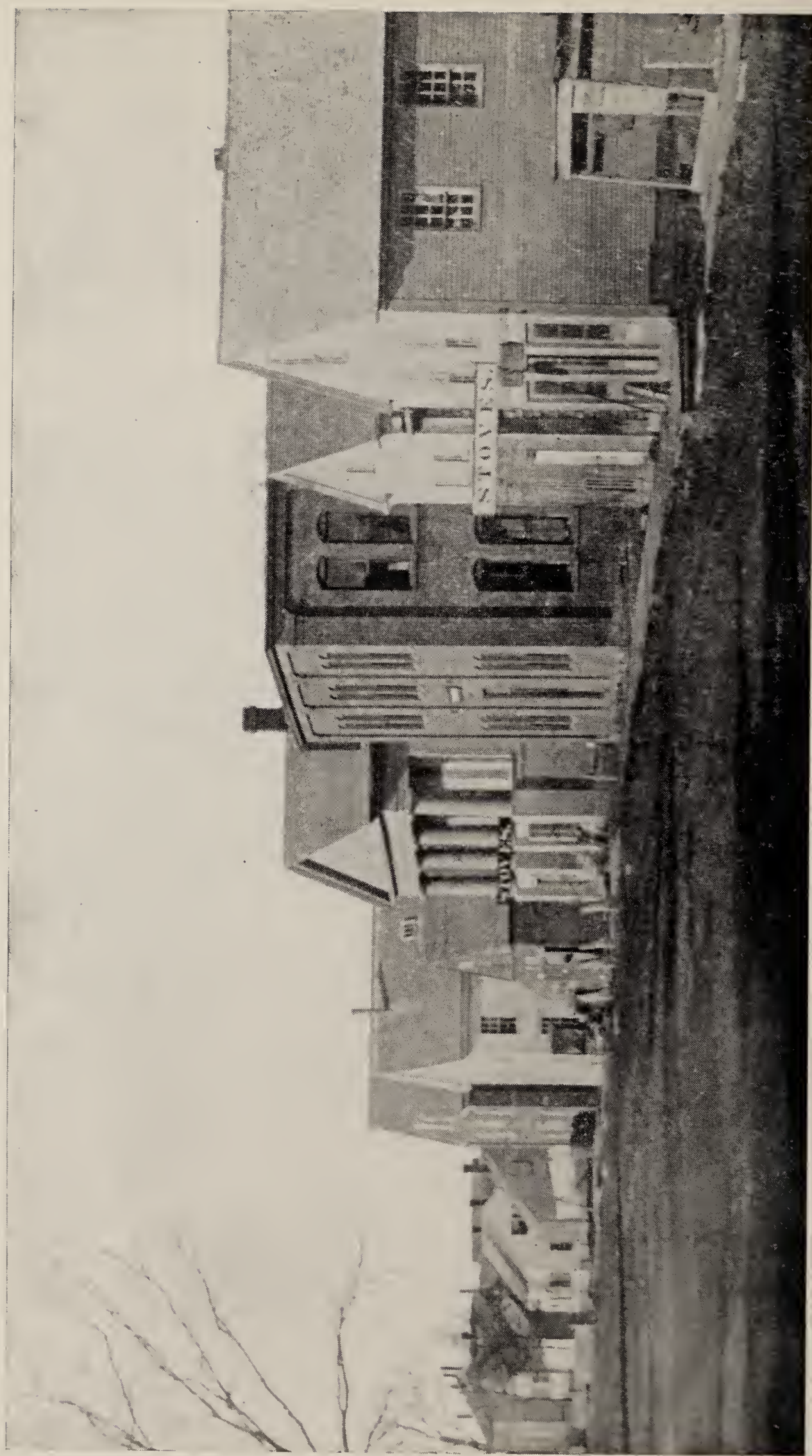
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Universalist Church And "Holy Ground", Upper Main Street.
Iron Foundry, Blacksmith Shop, Warren's Cotton Mill — 1850.

Highlights of Westbrook History

Compiled by
ERNEST R. ROWE
and others



MARIAN B. ROWE, *Editor*
Librarian Maine Historical Society

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FOREWORD

This book was written to answer the increasing demand for information about the early beginnings and development of our city. No attempt has been made to cover genealogical data or documentary history. Every effort has been made to present the story in a brief, accurate account which, it is hoped, will be of interest to all. Especially do we wish our young people to know the background of the community in which they live.

Much credit should be given to the late Judge Fabius M. Ray and Mrs. Isabel T. Ray who had made painstaking research into early Westbrook history. Their articles, published in old newspapers and pamphlets, provided a valuable source of information.

Though this is not a complete history it is presented with the hope that it will provide a stimulus for someone to continue the work at some future date.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

To the following people who so generously assisted in the work on this brief history of Westbrook we are deeply grateful: Members of the History Committee of the Westbrook Woman's Club, Mrs. Helen Thompson, Mrs. Dorothy Philbrook, Mrs. Etta Burnell, Mrs. Nellie Spiller, Mrs. Calanthe Chase, Mrs. Clyda Chick, Mrs. Ethelyn Chase, Mrs. Ruth Stevens, assisted by Mrs. Myrtle Fuller, librarian of the Walker Memorial Library; Mr. Charles Munson, for material on military history and fraternal organizations; Mr. Joseph Warren and Mr. Duncan Oliphant, for history of S. D. Warren Company; Mr. Philip Dana and Mr. Duncan Oliphant, for history of Dana Warp Mills; Miss Edith Haskell and Mr. Ralph Haskell for history of Westbrook Manufacturing Company and Haskell Silk Mills; Mr. Ralph Knowlton for history of Knowlton Machine Shop; Miss Nancy Hyde for the account of Warren Memorial Library; the S. D. Warren Company for their generosity in donating the paper for the book—and to the many others who have contributed information to make this history of Westbrook an interesting and accurate account.

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WESTBROOK is bounded by Portland on the east, starting at the Presumpscot River on the Falmouth line; South Portland and Scarborough on the south; Gorham and Windham on the west; and Falmouth on the north. From the point of intersection between South Portland, Scarborough and Westbrook, to the point of intersection of Falmouth, Windham and Westbrook, the distance is about seven and one-half miles. Its greatest width is three and one-quarter miles and the point showing the least width is two and one-eighth miles. Westbrook's area is about twenty-one square miles or fourteen thousand acres. The elevation of the populous part of the city, which is along the banks of the Presumpscot River, is low, averaging about thirty feet above sea level. The highest point of land in Westbrook is known as Gowen's Hill, on Duck Pond Road, not far from the Falmouth line.

ELEVATION OF THE PRINCIPAL HILLS: Gowen's Hill 300 feet; Rocky Hill 290 feet; points on Methodist Road 200 to 220 feet; Deer Hill 120 feet; Woodlawn and St. Hyacinthe Cemeteries 100 feet; Chapman Hill 100 feet; Saco Street beyond the bridge 120 to 140 feet; Conant Hill 100 feet.

RIVERS AND STREAMS: The Presumpscot River enters Westbrook from Gorham, running nearly southeast to the falls at Westbrook, where it makes a bend to the eastward and northward, then flows northeasterly into the town of Falmouth, whence, by an easterly course, it empties into Casco Bay. The Stroudwater River, which crosses the southern part of the city, flows southeastward into Fore River at Stroudwater. Duck Pond, or Highland Lake, part of which is in the northeast corner of Westbrook, is over three square miles in extent and about eighteen or twenty feet in average depth. It is one hundred and seventy-one feet above tidewater and is supplied chiefly from small ponds and springs. Mill Brook, flowing from Highland Lake with an average width of about forty feet, is about ten miles in length from the pond to Riverton Bridge where it joins the Presumpscot, and has a fall in this distance of some one hundred and sixty-one feet.

HIGHLIGHTS OF WESTBROOK HISTORY

Highlights of Westbrook History

CHAPTER 1

EARLY FALMOUTH AND THE INDIANS

THE territory embracing what we now know as Westbrook, Maine, was for many years a part of the ancient town of Falmouth.

Previous to 1615 two great tribes of Indians dwelt within our territory of Maine. The Penobscot tribe, whose jurisdiction extended from the St. Georges River east of the Kennebec River through to Nova Scotia, reached far into the wilderness hundreds of miles. The Abnaki tribe roamed from the Kennebec River to the Piscataqua River between New Hampshire and Maine, and from these points went as far north as the St. Lawrence River including the present site of Quebec and probably Montreal. It has been estimated that in both tribes there were 5,000 warriors and 37,000 population within the limits of Maine in 1615. This is more than the estimated population of the Europeans in our State in 1750.

The Abnakis were divided into many clans or minor tribes, such as the Canabis or Kennebecs who had villages on the Kennebec River; the Anasagunticooks on the Androscoggin River; the Sokokis or Sacos on the Saco River; and the Newichewannocks on the Piscataqua River. These four principal tribes were sub-divided. Among them were the Wahwenocks east of the Kennebec River; the Pequawkets on the Saco River in the vicinity of Fryeburg; and the Aucociscos on the Presumpscot River, and others. The Abnakis were rated as the oldest of the eastern tribes. Other tribes referred to them as ancestral. The name Abnaki, or Wanbanagi, was taken from the Indian word Wanbanban designating the people of the Aurora Borealis, or the breaking of day in the East. A tradition prevailed among the Abnakis that they had been here from the beginning of the creation of man. While the once powerful tribes of Indians

in Maine have long since ceased to be a retarding influence in the development of our State, we do have a small number of descendents of those early tribes living in Maine today. However, these redmen, having lived for many years in an environment of peace, education and industry, are becoming worthy citizens of our State.

The first settlers came in 1632 at a time when the Indians were very active and hostile toward all white settlers. Because of this condition a rapid development of the settlement became impossible and many years passed before the settlement became incorporated as a town.

Among the early settlers of Falmouth was Richard Tucker, who first established himself at the mouth of the Spurwink River in Cape Elizabeth in 1630 where he was joined the same year by George Cleeves, and they carried on a business there for two or three years. In 1632, they were driven from their residence on the Spurwink and sought refuge on the north side of Casco Neck or Fore River. George Cleeves built a house at the northerly corner of the present Hancock and Fore Streets, near the present site of the Grand Trunk Railroad station thus becoming the first white settler in what is now Portland. Richard Tucker, his partner, had in the meantime returned to Portsmouth, New Hampshire.

We are told that one of the first buildings, a hut, to be built in Falmouth was erected by Walter Bagnall and a companion in 1628 on Richmond Island. This island is located off the Cape Elizabeth shore near the mouth of the Spurwink River. Bagnall had made an application to the Massachusetts authorities for a grant of this island but he never received it as he was murdered before the date of its arrival. He established a trading post on the island and did a considerable amount of business in exchanging English merchandise for furs brought in by the Indians. The Indians soon found that he was dishonest in his dealings with them and gave evidence of their dislike and hatred toward him. They made him a surprise visit in the Fall of 1631, killed him and burned his buildings. This crime is said to have

been committed by Indians under the leadership of Squitterygusset, a Sagamore of the Aucocisco tribe of Indians.

The Aucocisco tribe had inhabited the Presumpscot River region for many years and maintained a village near the lower falls of the Presumpscot in Falmouth. They also maintained a planting ground, less than a mile below the present S. D. Warren Company paper mills, where they came each Spring and planted corn. The squaws of the tribe prepared the land and planted the corn while the braves occupied their time in fishing and hunting. Each Spring large schools of fish came up the river to spawn. The Indians, taking advantage of this fact, gathered large numbers of the fish, hauled them up on the shore and used them as a fertilizer. For every hill of corn planted they would drop in two or three fish. They called this procedure "fishing the corn". No record has ever been found of any large scale battle between the Indians and early settlers within what is now the city limits of Westbrook.

In 1657 the Indian Sagamore, Squitterygusset, sold a tract of land to Francis Small of Kittery, who was sometimes mentioned as a fisherman. At the same time he was also an Indian Trader and a large land owner in this region. To Mr. Small was given the first recorded deed of a sale of real estate. The deed describes a tract of land from Capisic, formerly a part of Deering, now a part of Portland, to the "Ammoncongin River". The consideration mentioned in the deed was "one trading coat a year for Capisic, and one gallon of liquor each year for Ammoncongin". According to records Mr. Small settled on this purchase where he remained many years but his home was probably at Capisic. The following year, 1658, the name of Falmouth was first given to the ancient township by joint compact between the inhabitants and commissioners appointed by the General Court of Massachusetts. Thus the scattered settlements at Spurwink, the Neck, Presumpscot River (Lower Falls), Capisic and Back Cove began self-government as a town with a board of selectmen.

In the early days of Falmouth the coming of the white

settlers caused the Indians to show great resentment which in due time turned to hatred and violence toward the settlers. The greater part of their depredations took place in that section of the town now known as Portland; however, their activities extended to the Saccarappa section. In the year 1744 the Indians destroyed all mills in this vicinity including Colonel Westbrook's dam and paper mill at the lower falls of the Presumpscot. Mr. Nathaniel Knight and family were obliged to flee to Stroudwater for protection. Colonel Westbrook built a block house on Pork Hill, now called Park Hill, and started to build a dam at Saccarappa Falls but was obliged to suspend operations for some time due to the activities of the Indians.

We learn from an ancient deposition bearing the date of June 4th, 1666, that certain Indian Sagamores conveyed to George Munjoy a tract of land one mile square, the bounds of which are included between the sections now known as the East and West Ends of Westbrook. The land named included the old Indian planting ground near the present site of the S. D. Warren paper mills. George Munjoy and his wife Mary had a house and some improvements on the southwest side of Ammoncongin where he came with his servants during planting and reaping time and often at other times for short periods. Mr. Munjoy probably died about 1685, as that year an inventory of his estate showed Ammoncongin land to be valued at 20 pounds, or about \$100.00. This is the man who gave the name to the present "Munjoy Hill" in Portland. After Mr. Munjoy's death his widow married Robert Lawrence who continued to cultivate the land for several years on the old Ammoncongin farm. It is quite probable that at this point occurred the first land cultivation attempted by white men in Westbrook.

The building of a dam at Saccarappa Falls caused the beginning of trouble between the Indians under Chief Polin of the Rockameecook Tribe and the settlers along the upper reaches of the Presumpscot River in Windham, continuing long after the dam was completed. Chief Polin's objection to the dam was its interference with the migration each

year of the salmon to Sebago Lake. At one time he walked all the way to Boston to see Governor Shirley who then had fishways installed. As the white settlers increased the salmon decreased. Chief Polin then made a demand of Governor Shirley that the settlers leave the Presumpscot region from Sebago Lake down or the Indians would drive them out. All fighting came to an end when Chief Polin was shot and killed by Stephen Manchester at New Marblehead, now Windham, in 1756.

CHAPTER 2

FIRST SETTLERS AND DEVELOPMENT OF LUMBER INDUSTRY

MANY years before Westbrook became incorporated as a town there came into being two villages along the shores of the Presumpscot River, a river about twenty-two miles in length, with several falls where dams and mills could be built. Early settlers were quick to recognize the possibilities of these mill sites, and lumbermen visualized, here in the wilderness, a lumberman's paradise. Both of these villages bore Indian names. Saccarabigg was the name given to the more westerly falls, a name which was later changed to Saccarappa. About one mile east of the Saccarappa Falls was another waterfall which the Indians named Ammoncongin, later called Congin. The Indian names of places all had a meaning, and, among other translations, the following are most often used: Ammoncongin, "high fishing place"; Saccarappa Falls, "falling towards the rising sun"; and Presumpscot, "many rough places river", referring to its many waterfalls. At these two locations dams and mills were built which in due time induced workmen to seek employment and bring their families here. These sturdy pioneers formed the nucleus of what was to become a thriving town and city.

We have no authentic record stating as to who was the first white settler to make his home in what is now Westbrook. Tradition has given us the name of Joseph Conant as the first settler. But the late historian Leonard B. Chapman states that manuscript records tend to contradict that belief, and names Deacon John Bailey and his business associates. Other records show that Colonel Thomas Westbrook may have come before Deacon Bailey, in pursuit of mast trees. He owned cattle and lived in a camp for a while in the Saccarappa region. However, it is generally accepted that the first settler to build a permanent home in this vicinity was Joseph Conant.

Mr. Conant, with his brother Samuel, came from Beverly,

Massachusetts. Joseph and Samuel were grandsons of Roger Conant, first settler and governor of Naumkeag, now Salem. Tradition has it that Joseph brought his family and worldly wealth up the Presumpscot River in a canoe. It is said that he built a house, a saw mill, and a grist mill at Saccarappa Falls and started farming. Joseph Conant met with many discouraging moments during his efforts to establish himself in Saccarappa. On his arrival here he endeavored to purchase a mill site, but found that Deacon Bailey and his associates owned all of the land adjacent to the Saccarappa Falls on the Presumpscot and were privileged to use the water for power. In the course of time, through the aid of Reverend Thomas Smith, he was able to acquire the land for his mill but he could not obtain land on which to build a house. He finally hired a privilege for that purpose and put up a shack on the northeasterly side of the river into which he moved, bridging the Presumpscot to reach it. In a deposition, he stated that it was in the year of 1739, in the month of May, when he finished his mill, and on the 18th day of December of that year, he began his house, which, by the aid of four other people, he finished in five days.

Soon after, news was received that an Indian raid had been made upon the Gorham settlement and all had been massacred. He, with others, went up to help bury the dead. Upon returning, they found that the wife of Thomas Haskell had taken possession of his house and would not leave. She claimed, that in time of war, it was best for all to live in one family, and Conant's house was a good one for a garrison. She also claimed that she could "dress his victuals" as well as anyone. This was the woman who ran the ferry boat at Stroudwater. "Soon" he states, "she made my life miserable," and he was glad to depart, leaving her in possession.

At this time Mr. Conant moved into an abandoned loggers' camp and, later, sold the house on the north side of the Saccarappa Falls to Mr. Thomas Haskell. The house was upon General Samuel Waldo's land, the large lot known in history as the Cooper Claim, which later became the

object of court procedure. The object of this dispute was to dispossess Mr. Haskell of his claim to the land upon which the house stood. Joseph Conant's son Bartholomew and other descendants lived near Duck Pond, that part of Westbrook now known as Highland Lake. The brother, Samuel Conant, married Mary Peabody and it is from this family that Conant Street has its name. The old Conant homestead on Pork Hill (now Park Hill) was destroyed by fire some years ago. It was in this house that Benjamin Paul Akers was born. The late Mrs. George Norton (Hattie Conant) was the fifth in direct descent from Samuel's son Joseph. Hattie Conant's brothers were Henry, a blacksmith by trade, and Daniel, a well known farmer.

Mr. John Phillips is also listed as having one of the early saw mills at Saccarappa Falls. There is a record stating that as early as December 2nd, 1729 Saccarappa Falls were granted by the Falmouth Proprietors to Benjamin Ingersoll, Joshua Bayley, Benjamin Larrabee Jr. and Company for a saw mill. We find among the early names those of John Gordon, Enoch Freeman Jr., Jonathan Webb, Andrew Titcomb, and Daniel Godfrey as being the lumber kings of old Saccarappa. These pioneers entered into the lumber business in a big way for those early days. The lumber industry was the leading business in this vicinity for over a century.

We are told that these first permanent settlers within the present limits of Westbrook were persons belonging to the Congregational First Parish Church at Falmouth Neck, now Portland. The pastor was Reverend Thomas Smith.

On March 31, 1732, one hundred acres of land was laid out to John Tyng. The location of this tract was on the south side of the Presumpscot beginning at the Saccarappa Falls down 126½ rods, and back from the river 126½ rods. This land was soon after found in the possession of General Waldo who, at one time, owned large tracts of land in this district. John Tyng, brother of Parson Thomas Smith's first wife, was the son of William and Lucy Clarke Tyng, and later was an eccentric judge of the Middlesex Massachusetts

Court of Common Pleas. He was born January 28, 1705, graduated from Harvard second in a class of forty-five in 1725, and died in Tyngsboro, Massachusetts. It is interesting to read that ranking in class at that time was made according to the social position of the family.

In the eighteenth century, it is said that Daniel Godfrey swamped out the first road, over which log teams hauled their heavy loads to market. A part of our Main Street must have been included in Godfrey's roadway. The highway from Saccarappa to Stroudwater was surveyed in 1735, and thousands of mast logs were hauled over this road. That same year a highway was also surveyed from Stroudwater to Presumpscot Falls, (Congin). Oxen were used largely to move the heavy loads and it was not unusual to see a team of twenty-six oxen drawing a single load of mast trees to Stroudwater. Records show that lumbering was a thriving business well into the nineteenth century. The names of Daniel T. Pierce, Archelaus Lewis, John and Nathaniel Warren, Dana Brigham, Samuel Clements, George and Lewis Warren, and Joseph Walker also appear in connection with the eighteenth century lumber industry.

In an article on Westbrook, the late Mrs. Isabel T. Ray, a talented Westbrook historical writer, wrote that not only were there saw mills in early Westbrook, but grist mills as well. In the early days, long after the first settlement in Gorham in 1736, the only grist mill available to the inhabitants of that town was at the Presumpscot lower falls where they transported their grist by boat, carrying boat and cargo around the falls at Saccarappa and Ammoncongin. That a grist mill was in operation at Saccarappa by the middle of the eighteenth century is shown by the following entry in Parson Smith's journal: "Feb. 27, 1748. Went to Saccarabig. Mr. Conant tells me he has ground 1000 bu. of corn this winter, there being no other mills than his between Yarmouth and Saco."

In her article Mrs. Ray also wrote "Besides the many mills at Saccarappa and Ammoncongin there were saw mills erected in the 18th century at Stroudwater Falls, so called,

on the present Spring Street, and also at the outlet of Duck Pond, now called Highland Lake, and upon Mill Brook by the residence of the late Nathan W. Boody. Saccarappa must have been a busy place with 19 saw mills all in operation at one time, night and day." Saccarappa, which was the name of the largest village in the town of Westbrook, has been immortalized by Richard Henry Dana in his book "Two Years Before the Mast", and sailors have been heard oftentimes to sing this doggerel;

Old horse, old horse what brought you here?
From Saccarap to Portland Pier
I've carted boards this many a year,
Till killed by blows and sore abuse
They salted me down for sailors' use.
The sailors they do me despise,
They throw me over and damn my eyes,
Cut off my meat and scrape my bones,
And throw me over to Davy Jones.

The mast trees, the oxen, the saw mills and grist mills have, for the most part, gone from our midst to be replaced by other and more modern industries.

CHAPTER 3

COLONEL THOMAS WESTBROOK

THE town, later the city, of Westbrook was named in honor of Colonel Thomas Westbrook, a man of prominence in his time in civil, business and military affairs. Little is known of his early life. It is not known for a certainty where or when he was born. An historical article published in 1913, by the late Leonard B. Chapman, tells of Colonel Westbrook and his father as follows: "John Westbrook lived in Portsmouth, New Hampshire, or a parish in that county. He owned a farm and his son, Thomas, at the date of his father's death administered. John Westbrook also had two daughters, One, named Mary, became the wife of Nathan Knight, the other Rebecca, married John Urin and remained with her husband upon the New Hampshire homestead. This is shown by the probate court records at Exeter, New Hampshire."

The first mention of Colonel Thomas Westbrook in any early record that we have found states: "As a young man (no age given) in 1704 he applied to the constituted authorities for a commission as an Indian scout and fighter. - - - He received the desired position and was given three men to assist him in his duties." We find that he was promoted from time to time and during the French and Indian Wars he was given command of all military operations in the so-called eastern district. After the Wars he returned to Portsmouth, New Hampshire.

Colonel Westbrook became widely known when, in 1721, the general court of Massachusetts ordered him to organize an expedition and proceed to Norridgewock to capture Father Rasle. Part of the following story of this and other expeditions comes from an article on Colonel Westbrook, in the Lewiston Journal, January 6, 1917, written by Ella M. Bangs. She tells that, in 1721, the general court of Massachusetts authorized Colonel Westbrook to raise a force and proceed to Norridgewock to capture Father Rasle, a Jesuit missionary, and take him to Boston. The Puritans of

Massachusetts declared him to be largely responsible for the atrocities committed by the Indians on the early settlers.

Regarding this Father Rasle, contrasting opinions were held. This priest, Sebastian Rasle, had for twenty-five years been laboring tirelessly to convert the Indians to the Catholic faith, and so powerful had been his influence that large numbers of the Indians were baptized as Christians. The expedition started for Norridgewock in January 1722. The party arrived at the village before a warning could be given for withdrawal of the inhabitants, and according to Father Rasle's own written account, "I had barely time to swallow the consecrated host, to pack the sacred vessels in a small chest, and secrete myself in the woods."

The priest also tells that the English had reached the village toward evening and, not finding him, had withdrawn and returned the following day. They searched for him and at one time came within eight paces of the tree behind which he was hiding. The "little chest" of which Father Rasle speaks was doubtless the same which held his papers and writing materials, and which Colonel Westbrook brought away with him. In a secret compartment of this chest were found letters to Father Rasle from the French governor of Quebec, confirming the surmises of the Massachusetts province officers that the French officials in Canada were the instigators of the Indian raids upon the English settlements. The celebrated "little chest" often referred to as "Father Rasle's strong box" was brought to Falmouth, where it remained during the lifetime of Colonel Westbrook. Later it passed into the custody of various societies and people, until today it may be seen, an interesting and valued possession of the Maine Historical Society, in Portland.

In "Life of Sebastian Rale" by Convers Francis, D.D., we find that another valuable part of the plunder was Father Rasle's manuscript "Dictionary of the Abnaki Language". The original manuscript is preserved in the Houghton Library at Harvard University. This raid upon their fort and village awoke in the Indians a savage spirit of

revenge. Immediately after finishing the cultivation of their corn, there was shortage of provisions, which, with the desire for revenge, resulted in a war party which attacked and destroyed the village at Brunswick and other settlements.

According to Williamson in "The History of the State of Maine" chief command of the eastern forces was given to Colonel Westbrook in 1723, and the expedition to Norridgewock was revived. On February 11, 1723, Colonel Westbrook left Kennebec at the head of two hundred and thirty men. Their equipment consisted of several small vessels, well armed, and a good supply of whale boats. A short stop was made at Mt. Desert from which place they ascended the Penobscot river and anchored a few miles above the present town of Bucksport. Here they left their boats and marched for five days through the forest in search of the Indian village and fort of Norridgewock. The ground was covered with several feet of snow and the intrepid company traveled on snow shoes for more than a hundred miles carrying all their provisions, ammunition, tools and blankets on their backs. Reaching at length the supposed spot, they left a hundred men on guard with the provisions and tents, selected fifty veterans in Indian warfare, and went in search of the fort. Forty men were left on guard on the west side of the river while the remainder, in hastily prepared canoes, were ferried across the river opposite the fort and village. This was about six P.M. To their surprise, not a camp fire was seen, not a sound was heard, while morning revealed only desolate and abandoned habitations, for the Indians, having learned of the expedition, had hastily left their village.

Several expeditions were sent to Norridgewock with instructions to capture Father Rasle, but none were successful until August, 1724. This expedition under the leadership of Captains Harmon, Moulton, Bourne and Bean put the priest to death after an indiscriminate killing of men, women and children. This was contrary to the orders of the commanding officer. We are glad to find that the

cruelty of this attack was not by order of Colonel Westbrook, as he was not with the attacking party at this time. His orders from the general court had been to bring Father Rasle to Boston. That this deed was hardly approved of in Boston is hinted at in the diary of Councilor Sewall, who, under the date of August 22, 1724 writes: "The Sheerness (man-of-war) comes up, Captain Harmon with his Norridgewock scalp, at which there is great shouting and triumph. The Lord help us to rejoice with trembling".

Colonel Westbrook's last appearance in a military capacity was at a great council with the Indians held in Falmouth in 1725. Colonel Westbrook's wife was Mary Sherburn, daughter of John Sherburn of Portsmouth, New Hampshire. Their daughter, Elizabeth, was married at the age of seventeen to Richard Waldron, a grandson of Major Richard Waldron, who was later killed by the Indians at Dover, New Hampshire. We find that Colonel Westbrook was a member of the Provincial Council of New Hampshire in 1710, but that he was living at Scarborough in 1719, as was his brother-in-law, Nathan Knight, who was an agent and contractor for Colonel Westbrook.

After the close of the French and Indian Wars, Colonel Westbrook had returned to Portsmouth, New Hampshire and had received an appointment as the King's Mast Agent. In those days all vessels were propelled by wind and sails and necessarily required masts to hold the sails to the wind. As mast trees were nearly exhausted in parts of England, the ship builders turned to America where there seemed to be an almost inexhaustable supply. In view of this fact the mast industry became one of the leading industries in this part of Falmouth.

One of the duties of the mast agent and his men was to go through the forest to select and mark those trees which were most suitable for masts and cut the King's mark on them. The King's mark was shaped like the barbed end of an arrow ↑. A settler found guilty of cutting down one of these marked trees was subject to a heavy fine.

Colonel Westbrook put forth a great deal of effort in

searching for an ideal location as a base operation for his mast work and selected Stroudwater as the place best suited to his needs. In 1727 Colonel Westbrook came to Stroudwater, and upon the payment of ten pounds, was admitted as a citizen and proprietor of the town of Falmouth. He built two houses in Stroudwater. His first house was built at the head of Waldo Street where he lived only one or two years. In 1733 he built his so-called "Harrow House" on the site of the present Fickett house which is a short distance beyond the Stroudwater river toward the airport. Both of these houses were small having two rooms with a kitchen attached. "Harrow House", his second house, had several small buildings where provisions, a few small cannon, muskets and ammunition were housed. A stockade, or garrison, was built around the entire house lot. This was built by placing trees, cut fifteen feet long, closely together in an upright position with five feet set into the ground, thus making a ten foot wall which was planked on the outside and presented a formidable barrier against the Indians. When the Indians were known to be near an alarm was sounded, and settlers, hearing this, would gather within the garrison. They would close the heavy gate, then watch for and shoot at the Indians through the many small openings cut in the walls of the garrison. The women present would reload the empty muskets and mould the bullets.

Colonel Westbrook's second house which he named after the English custom, "Harrow House", was at that time the only residence in Maine to have a distinctive title. Some historians have described it as an imposing and splendid building for the time in which the Colonel lived as a lord of the manor, while others take the stand that it was only a small one-story fortified affair, and in no way deserved the elaborate descriptions sometimes given. The latest historical data seems to substantiate the latter description.

After the death of Colonel Westbrook his house was sold, and in 1795 we find Samuel Fickett, a shipbuilder, as owner of the property. Mr. Fickett dismantled the old house that year and built a new house on the site of the Colonel's old

home. The Fickett house is still in use as a dwelling house on Westbrook Street in Stroudwater (1951).

The mast business was indeed a boon to the early settlers for, by outfitting and shipping masts to a central point, they were able to secure real money which was scarce in those days. Many of the settlers were obliged to resort to barter to gain their livelihood.

In 1733 Colonel Westbrook built a paper mill at Stroudwater Falls near the present dam at Stroudwater which was in active operation for some years. The Colonel built a dam at the lower falls of the Presumpscot River, and a paper mill was erected there, but this mill was never in full operation and was later destroyed by the Indians.

During Colonel Westbrook's military service he became well acquainted with Brigadier General Samuel Waldo. The Waldo family had great influence in the affairs of Falmouth for forty years previous to the Revolutionary War. General Samuel Waldo, the first of the name who took especial interest in the affairs of the province of Maine, was a son of Jonathan Waldo, a wealthy merchant of Boston. His father was a large landowner in Maine, including a portion of the Waldo patent, all of which at his death on May 26, 1731 he bequeathed to his son Samuel.

Colonel Westbrook became associated with General Waldo in many business ventures. At one time he and General Waldo owned all of the falls on the Presumpscot, from Mallison Falls, Gorham, to tidewater in Falmouth. Among his many estates Colonel Westbrook also owned half of Great and Little Chebeague Islands. Mr. Willis writes in his "History of Portland" that these lands were taken from him by General Waldo through shrewd legal procedure in 1743. It was only the year before his death that Colonel Westbrook was stripped of these estates. General Waldo, through court procedure, recovered judgment against the Colonel for ten thousand five hundred pounds which he levied upon the remainder of his property.

One misfortune seemed to follow another in the last few years of the Colonel's life. His financial losses, combined

with impaired health were cause for a rapid decline in his physical condition and on February 11, 1744 he died in Stroudwater. Tradition has it that at that time there was an old English law, or perhaps we should say custom, whereby a dead body could be seized for debt. With this in mind, his friends buried the body secretly, and to this day there is no authentic record stating just where Colonel Westbrook was buried. The town, and now city, of Westbrook is the only monument left to perpetuate the name of this pioneer and gentleman.

After Colonel Westbrook's death, his wife returned to Portsmouth, New Hampshire, where she died in 1748 at the age of seventy-five years. The fragments of Colonel Westbrook's estate sold at auction in 1759 by Enoch Freeman, his administrator, amounted to about eight hundred fifty pounds, lawful money.

It may be of interest to learn that the house then occupied by Enoch Freeman, Jr., and built by Captain Charles Gerrish was located in the field to the west of the old Conant Cemetery at Saccarappa. It was afterwards removed to the southerly side of the street where it stood for some years. It was later taken down to make room for the double house of John W. and Albert F. Warren. This house is still standing (1951).

It has often been said that one of the greatest misfortunes of Colonel Westbrook's life, that which hastened his death, was brought about through his business connection with General Samuel Waldo. Unless the character of General Waldo has been woefully defamed, he was unscrupulous to a degree and rode roughshod over all sense of friendship or justice in order to increase his own wealth and power.

CHAPTER 4

WESTBROOK OF YESTERDAY

Wild Animals in Early Saccarappa

LONG before the first white settlers were here, hunters and trappers from Massachusetts and New Hampshire often came this way looking for and trapping beavers. The beaver was the most plentiful and valuable of all the fur bearing animals to be found in this section. This animal furnished the valuable pelts which the white traders obtained by barter from the Indians.

Judge Fabius M. Ray published an article on the beaver and other fur bearing animals found in early Saccarappa which gives a good description of these early days. He wrote that it is probable that during the three years Walter Bagnol pursued his calling on Richmond Island, the Indian trapper and hunter was engaged in the extermination of this most valuable animal within our present city limits. Inquiries have been made as to how and why the well known Beaver Pond in Saccarappa was given its name. It seems reasonable to assume that sometime in the past the beaver built his dam upon the little rill that emptied into the pond near the dwelling formerly owned by Mr. William C. Phinney at 55 Spring Street, later occupied by Angier H. Libby. This pond now little more than a frog pond is still known in the neighborhood as "Phinney's Pond." When the white settlers first came the "Beaver Dam Brook," so called, on Longfellow Street within the limits of Gorham, was inhabited by these animals.

Other fur bearing animals lived within this area in those early times. Red deer, moose, bears and caribou also roamed through the virgin forests or grazed upon the open plains where fires had destroyed the trees and underbrush. All these animals were useful to the Indians: their flesh was used for food and their hides for clothing, strings for bows, thongs for snow shoes, and coverings for canoes. It is reported that as late as the beginning of the present century bears were so numerous in the vicinity of Saccarappa, that they made

great havoc of the farmers' cornfields; and that a familiar mode of destroying them was by the use of a rude log trap, known as a figure four. This method of capturing bruin was used by the Johnson brothers, whose farm was on Saco Street, later known as the Hatch House, now occupied by Roscoe Libby.

Land Slides in Westbrook

It has often been said that the earliest foundations of the Village of Saccarappa, now a part of Westbrook, were laid in the bed of an extinct lake. But later investigations have rendered it reasonably certain that the first thoroughfare, along which the original settlers erected their early dwelling places, was over the outlet of one of those disturbances of the earth's surface, still known in the Presumpscot Valley as "land slides". The slide in question occurred in prehistoric times and involved a wide extent of territory. However, many similar phenomena, though less in extent, took place within the last century. These have been carefully studied and observed and the cause, no less than the manner of their taking place is well understood.

The slide, termed as prehistoric, occurred so many years ago that even the Indians knew nothing about it. There is a good reason for believing that its occurrence was long after the floating iceberg had ceased to leave its mark upon the rocks, and the face of the land had settled down to its present conformation of plain and hill, valley, lake and river. It was probably, years and years after the Presumpscot had begun its march from Sebago Lake to the ocean. The area of this prehistoric phenomena included about two hundred acres and is marked by abrupt embankments, the height varying from ten to thirty feet.

The early inhabitants knew this region as the "cellar field", which was for many years owned by George and Lewis P. Warren (lumber kings). This section starts at the Gorham and Westbrook town line following Conant Street to Main Street. The southerly boundary follows the route of the old Cumberland and Oxford Canal to a point beyond Saco Street. Our main street is built upon land which filled

what was once the bed of the Presumpscot River. When the "cellar field" was cleared, the plow turned to the surface soils of such varied character as to prove there had been no lake, as occasionally a log would be struck, one end of which would be near the surface while the other was deep in the earth. Years ago in digging a well near the corner of Main and Bridge Streets, workmen found the trunk of a large tree at a depth of thirty feet. The same conditions were found in 1867 about one hundred feet from this point when excavating for the foundation of Lisk's Mill. The slides changed the course of the river, as the bed had once been near the site of the Boston and Maine Railway station.

On May 5th, 1851 a large slide occurred on the north side of the Presumpscot River near Pride's Bridge (River-ton). The last great slide, which was in part a slide and in part a subsidence, occurred on November 22, 1868. Its location was above the one at Pride's Bridge and about one-third of a mile below the S. D. Warren Mills. This slide is still referred to as the Cumberland Mills, or Boody Slide, and doubtless began in the bottom of the Presumpscot River near the location of Halidon (the Single Tax Colony). At this point there had been from the earliest historic times a somewhat sharp curve in the river toward the northerly shore, at the foot of a shelving and very steep embankment of earth. The ascent from the bed of the river is about thirty feet, a large tract of level or plains land covered almost wholly with a forest of pines and firs, with an intermixture of hard wood growth. The season had been unusually rainy and, as a consequence, the water in the river was increased in volume and velocity. The upland being greatly overcharged with water had become much heavier than its normal weight while the soil in the river valley had become softened to an unusual degree by being constantly flooded. This great extent of upland, containing many acres, rested upon no better foundation than a semi-liquid mass, made up largely of clay and quicksand. One morning after heavy seasonal rains this liquid earth, finding vent upwards through the bed of the river, soon filled the curve in both directions.

As the soft earth was forced upward there was a corresponding subsidence of the upland so that, in the course of a few hours, about thirty acres of level land had settled down into a rough and broken area with sandy loam from the surface and clay that had been trapped upward through innumerable fissures. This newly formed land was nearly on a level with the waters of the river that now made a new channel to the bed of the stream below.

Mr. Charles Boody, whose land was included in this slide, made an entry in his diary under the date of November 22, 1868 which reads as follows: "Spent the day at the river. A serious convulsion having taken place, 25 or 30 acres of mine and Pennell's land has sunk and slid into the river, completely stopping the water for 8 or 9 hours, filling the bed of the river for half a mile and turning the course of the current from its original channel. My low intervale is covered with earth 25 feet deep on six or eight acres".

There is a record of a landslide which occurred in July 1873, at Saccarappa, when three-fourths of an acre of land belonging to John Best, slid into the Stroudwater River (near Spring Street), uprooting trees and filling the bed of the river for some distance. There is also ample evidence that other slides occurred at some early date, from the "cellar field" down as far as Stroudwater Street. Sometime in the early nineteen hundreds, 1902 or 1903, a small slide occurred on Conant Street near the residence of Ex-Mayor Ernest Porell. It had rained most of the week, and on Sunday it rained with renewed vigor. About three o'clock in the afternoon a mass of loose earth slightly larger than a railroad box car slid down across the street railroad track completely covering the rails to a depth of ten feet for a distance of about twenty-five feet. As the Portland Railroad Company's equipment did not include bulldozers or power shovels at that time, it took six men several hours to remove the heavy mud and debris from the rails. There are no records of any other slides in Westbrook.

Westbrook — 1813-1900

A previous chapter tells briefly of the development of this

1813

territory called Saccarappa and Ammoncongin, or Congin, while it was still a part of early Falmouth. In 1813, shortly before the division of Falmouth into separate towns, there was a destructive fire at Saccarappa about which the *Eastern Argus*, a Portland newspaper published on October 7th, the following article:

Wednesday, the 24th of Sept. last at Saccarappa, were destroyed by fire, the paper mill, with its whole apparatus, about twenty tons of rags (excepting four or five tons partly consumed, preserved after the fire subsided) and about 20 reams of writing paper; three sawmills; the clothier's dye house; and a large building containing a grist mill, fulling mill; and two machines for carding wool. The cloth, most of the wool, and the carding machinery were fortunately saved. The fire originated in the paper mill, and was first discovered between one and two o'clock in the afternoon. All persons had left it as early as nine or ten in the forenoon. In ten or twelve minutes after the fire was first discovered, this group of buildings were all in flames. Many other buildings, saw mills, houses and barns, from 4 or 5 to 15 or 20 rods distant, and in one or two instances at a much greater distance, took fire from the light coals carried by the wind, which by extraordinary exertion was extinguished. Much praise is due to all present for their activity, and especially to the females, who rendered very essential service, and without whose aid the fire would probably have spread much further, as many men of the place and vicinity were absent at the muster at Gorham. The paper mill belonged to Messrs. Partridge & Tower, one saw mill to S. A. Proctor, one to Joshua Webb, and one to Joseph Partridge, Nathan and Moses Quinby and the heirs of G. W. Quinby, the grist mill to Nathan and Moses Quinby, the carding machine to Moses Longfellow, and the fulling mill and dye house to B. B. Foster. The loss cannot be estimated at less than 10 or 12 thousand dollars.

1814

At the time of Falmouth's incorporation as a town in 1718 it included within its boundries, besides several of the islands of Casco Bay, the territory embracing what is now Portland, South Portland, Cape Elizabeth, Westbrook and Falmouth as we know it today. The Cape Elizabeth section withdrew from the original Falmouth and became incorporated as a new town in 1765. The same procedure followed in 1786 when Portland became incorporated as a separate town. The boundaries of the original Falmouth were again changed when, on February 14, 1814, another new town was incorporated under the name of Stroudwater. This name did not

meet with the approval of the majority of its citizens and, on June 9th of that same year, the name was changed to Westbrook to honor Colonel Thomas Westbrook, about whom much has been said in a previous chapter. The name was suggested by Nathan Knight, the brother-in-law of Colonel Westbrook.

When Westbrook became incorporated as a town, it included within its boundries what we now know as the Woodfords and Morrill's Corner sections of greater Portland, as well as Stroudwater. The boundary line between Westbrook and Portland extended to a point on Forest Avenue near the brick power house of the old Portland Street Railroad Company across from the Forest Avenue entrance to Deering Oaks. Other boundaries were the towns of Gorham, Windham, Falmouth, South Portland and Scarborough.

The call for the first town meeting in 1814 before the name was changed to Westbrook was as follows:

To Nathaniel Partridge, one of the principal inhabitants of the town of Stroudwater in the County of Cumberland, by virtue of an act of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts made and passed, on the fourteenth day of February in the year of our Lord, eighteen hundred and fourteen, entitled an act to incorporate the town of Stroudwater. I hereby request you to notify and warn the free-holders and other inhabitants of said town of Stroudwater qualified by law to vote for town officers:-viz. Such as are twenty-one years old and upwards, and residents of said town for the term of one year next preceding, to assemble and meet at the meeting house in said Stroudwater on Monday, the fourteenth instant, ten of the clock in the fore-noon to act on the following articles viz:-

1. To Chuse a Moderator
2. To Chuse a Clerk
3. To Chuse town officers for the insuing year.

Given under my hand and Seal this fourth day of March 1814.

Signed,

Archelaus Lewis, Justice of Peace

Stroudwater, March 7, 1814.

Pursuant to the within Warrant, I have duly notified the inhabitants of said town qualified as within mentioned to meet at the time and place and for purposes within mentioned by posting up five attested copies of the within Warrant.

Nathaniel Partridge

At the first town meeting the following officers were elected:- Silas

Estes, Moderator; Jonathan Sparrow, Town Clerk; Silas Estes, Randall Johnson and Joseph Valentine, Selectmen; Zachariah B. Stevens, Collector; Jonathan Sparrow, Town Treasurer; Luther Fitch, Town Agent; Archelaus Lewis, Thomas Slemmons, John Jones, committee on articles; also the following officers whose names will be omitted:- 8 constables, 25 surveyors of Highways, 25 surveyors of Lumber, 3 cullors of Hoops and Stoves, 25 Fence Viewers, field drivers, hog reeves, and pound keepers, 4 Tything men, 5 sealers of Leather.

Recorded by Jonathan Sparrow Town Clerk

At the second town meeting: John Jones, Esq. and Silas Estes, Esq., were elected representatives to the Massachusetts Legislature from this district which was included in the second eastern district of the Massachusetts Commonwealth. Honorable Ezekiel Whitman represented us in Congress at this time and was re-elected. Samuel Dexter was Governor and William Gray Lieutenant Governor of Massachusetts. Two senators were elected, James Means and Theodore Mussey.

Soon after the incorporation of the town, the matter of the adjustment of debt and settlement of paupers of the two towns, Falmouth and Stroudwater, came up for consideration. A committee of five men of integrity and prominence from each town were chosen to adjust the matter and Stroudwater assumed charge of 19 paupers, Falmouth 16, with 4 paupers to charge to other towns. The joint debt was \$3,928.34, of which Falmouth agreed to assume two-fifths and Stroudwater three-fifths. The adjustment was made on April 18, 1814. The book containing the inventory of valuation and taxes for 1814 was doubtlessly a joint one of Falmouth and Westbrook, and was evidently retained by Falmouth. Consequently, it was lost in a destructive fire in that town in 1850.

1815

In the records of Alpheus Shaw, town clerk, we find that the total valuation of Westbrook in 1815 was \$19,574.36. The same valuation book was used for each year up to and including 1818. No record was made of any change in the valuation for those years. The rate of taxation was \$28.00 per \$1,000.00. Poll taxes were \$2.00 on 520 polls. Incomes were taxed; money in possession of private citizens was directly taxed; and evasion of taxes was out of the question.



LAND SLIDE, CUMBERLAND MILLS.
CHASM FORMED BY SLIDE.

Sawmill At Pork Hill, Early 1800's
November 22nd, 1868



Parson Bradley's Church

Last Meeting Held In Late 1800's By Deering In
Early Westbrook Town House At Brighton Corner

The aristocratic method of travel in those days was the one horse chaise, and in 1815, there were 84 of these vehicles taxed. The number of houses taxed at this time was about 400.

In 1820 the brick house, Number 15 Brackett Street, was built by Zackariah Brackett for his sons, Sewall and Carpenter, with bricks from his brickyard at Pride's Corner where he lived. This year the town meetings for the election of municipal officers and the transaction of town business in Westbrook were held in the First Parish Meeting House on Capisic Street, which was later known as the Parson Bradley or Old Orthodox Church. At this time the parish voted town meetings out of the church building.

1820

Three different churches were built on this site. The last one was built in 1835 and taken down in 1901 to make room for the building of the Mary Brown Home, now named the Eunice Frye Home. This church was a barn-like structure, and it has been reported that it was used for some seventy-five years for worship but never had a fire built in it.

After being deprived of the use of the church on Capisic Street, the town arranged with the Universalist Society for the use of their chapel for town meetings. This chapel was built in 1830 on Stevens Avenue, Portland, on the site of the present Roosevelt School. Later, the town built a town house on Stevens Avenue nearly opposite the Universalist Chapel. Within a short time there was a demand for a town house nearer the center of the town, and it was voted to build a town house on Riverside Street near the junction at Warren Avenue. This location did not prove ideal, as the town meetings were held in March when heavy snow covered the ground, and, on several occasions, it became necessary for the voters to shovel their way to the town house. This procedure soon became very unpopular and the building was sold. It is probable that later town meetings were held in the Saccarappa section of the town.

1830

Long service was rendered to the town by George Bishop, who served as town clerk continuously from 1816, except for one year, to 1842, when he was succeeded by the Honorable

Aaron Quinby. Mr. Quinby was an excellent penman and the general neatness of the pages written by him has seldom been excelled.

- 1842 As has been noted, records state that the valuation of the town in 1815 was listed at \$19,574.36 and by 1830, in a period of fifteen years, had increased to \$41,358.94, showing an increase in valuation of about 53%. The number of polls had increased from 520 to 629, showing an approximate increase in population of 18%. This indicates that the town had made a wonderful increase in wealth but not a corresponding increase in population. The 1830 poll tax was \$1.11. For the first time in its history, 1841, the town voted No Liquor License. On September 12, 1842, the vote on the question of a Constitutional amendment for biennial elections was 370 noes and 73 yeas. In other articles from old town records of this year we find that Brown Street from the house of David Hayes, Esq. to Tritten Hurd's house was accepted. Ammoncongion is said to have had only five or six houses and one store at this date.
- 1843 In the spring of 1843 there were great freshets when Saccarappa bridge was carried away, and Congin bridge was greatly damaged. \$200 was raised to build a new bridge at Saccarappa and to repair the one at Congin. Brackett Street was accepted this same year and a town court was established for the first time. In 1844 Dana Brigham and Henry Walker built the brick block on Main Street, the street floor of which is now occupied by the store of Ex-Mayor Ernest O. Porell and "The Men's Shop". This year the town voted in favor of License but with many restrictions. By 1848 the vote was for No License, showing that, during this period, there was an ever changing attitude toward the liquor question.
- 1844
- 1848
- 1849 The Warren block was built about 1849 on the corner of Main and Bridge Streets by Captain John Warren, father of George and Lewis P. Warren, prominent lumbermen. The first Catholic family to come to Westbrook came here
- 1850 in 1850, and lived in the brick house on Cumberland Street next to the "White House". This same year Sewall Brackett

built the brick block at the corner of Main and Brackett Streets, now (1951) occupied by the Lafond department store. It was in the upper story of this block, during the Civil War, that Mr. Brackett; John Brown, the railway station agent; Captain Isaac F. Quinby; and the Reverend H. J. Bradbury, the Universalist pastor, who were all abolitionists, maintained a station or hiding place for the so-called underground railroad, to assist runaway slaves in reaching Canada and freedom. This was done so secretly that even Mrs. Brackett did not know of it and blamed the depletion of her food supplies on the young apprentices of her husband who was a tinsmith, and, according to the custom of the times, housed and fed those to whom he was teaching his trade. Two of the apprentices were Joseph Knight and Temple Snow. In 1854 Samuel D. Warren purchased from Day and Lyon a small paper mill which, at that time, produced about one ton of paper per day.

1854

On October 3, 1857 the town voted to accept the new road from Brown Street to Congin Road near Cumberland Mills, and also voted an extension of Brackett Street. March 19, 1860 the check list for voters, according to the records, was used for the first time. George Libby and John T. Winslow were chosen a committee to assist the moderator in the use of this check list. The total number of ballots cast in the November 6, 1860 national election was 884. Votes cast for Lincoln and Hamlin, 553; Douglass and Johnson, 267; Breckenridge and Lane, 59; Bell and Everett, 5. The same year an effort was made to start graded schools at Saccarappa by the union of districts 9, 10 and 11. In 1861, after a trial session, it was voted to restore the school districts to their former standing and discontinue the graded system.

1857

1860

1861

On May 7, 1861 high waters carried away the pier bridge at Cumberland Mills, and, on May 25, it was voted to build a truss bridge to replace it. Elisha Newcomb and Clement P. Maxwell were chosen to receive proposals and have charge of its construction.

About this time volunteers were responding to a call to serve in the Civil War. At the annual town meeting on

1862 March 17, 1862 it was voted to provide for the families of volunteer soldiers in accordance with the laws of the state and to abate the poll taxes of volunteers. The following committee was chosen to report and plan for the further support of the families: James Pennell, Joseph Chenery, John Haskell, Marshall N. Fales, Samuel Clements, Henry F. Sands, Lewis P. Warren, Charles E. Boody and Dana Brigham. Westbrook was divided into military district. On July 24, 1862 the town voted to pay a bounty of \$100 to each soldier; this was on the enlistment of the so-called "nine months' men".

To encourage manufacturers to locate here, the town voted to exempt any cotton or wool fabric firms, hereafter established, for a term of five years (Act of April 12th, 1859).

President Lincoln's call for 300,000 men came on November 27, 1863. The town responded by voting to pay \$250 to each soldier when enlisted, the bounty to be raised on the credit of the town. It was voted to hire \$5,000 to be used as a contingent fund. The following year President Lincoln made another call for 500,000 men and the town voted to petition a loan of \$25,000 for a term not exceeding 10 years with interest at the rate of 6%. Town records of January 30, 1865 show the following: "voted that the selectmen and treasurer be authorized to issue a note of the town for \$400 payable in five years with interest annually to each citizen drafted and accepted, and to each citizen who may furnish a substitute in the call for troops, December 19, 1864." The new bridge was finished at Cumberland Mills at the cost of \$1,200.

1864-5

1867 At a special meeting called June 3, 1867, the vote for the suppression of drinking houses and tippling shops was 221 in favor and 6 against. At the beginning of the same year Captain John B. Coyle and others petitioned the Legislature to set off a portion of the town, annexing same to Portland. A remonstrance against this measure was passed, but it was only the beginning of trouble relating to the final division of the town in 1871. On March 8, 1869 it was voted to

1869

accept Mechanic and Central Streets, also the continuation of Brackett Street. The town, at this time, was beginning to construct sewers, but evidently had not awakened to the construction of sidewalks.

By 1868 the population of Westbrook had increased to such an extent that the management of municipal affairs became unwieldy. After a somewhat heated contest, it was decided on December 20th, 1869 to petition the legislature for a division of the town. This petition was acted upon favorably by the legislature, and the town was divided.

February 16, 1871 the new town of Deering was incorporated, and included what is now known as the Woodfords and Morrill's Corner section of greater Portland, as well as the Stroudwater district, while the Saccarappa and Ammoncongin sections retained the name of Westbrook. The new town's boundary line extended toward Westbrook to a point near the sand pit on Brighton Avenue.

1871

Deering was named in honor of James, son of Nathaniel and Dorcas Deering, who was born August 23, 1766, and died September 21, 1850. He owned the estate located between Winslow and Falmouth Streets in Portland. This estate was once the old Brackett Farm in Falmouth, where in a hollow near The Oaks, occurred a fight with the Indians on August 11, 1676, one hundred years before the Revolutionary War. Nathaniel Mitton, a brother of Mr. Brackett's wife, was killed and Mr. Brackett, his wife, five children, and a negro servant were taken captive. Mr. Deering conducted extensive farming on his estate, and was also interested in many business ventures. Today the grounds comprise the campus of Portland Junior College.

When Deering became a separate town it took about two-thirds of Westbrook's valuation and about 1383 polls, leaving Westbrook with a population of less than 3000. This great loss was overcome in a few years, due to the rapid development of its industries and the service rendered by the two lines of railroads passing through the town.

Joint town meetings were held until March 20th, 1871. At the first town meeting for the election of Westbrook town

officers following the division James Webb was elected town clerk; Henry B. Walker, John Cloudman and James Babb, selectmen; and John E. Warren, town treasurer. Mr. Warren, as town treasurer, with the Commissioners, and the Treasurer of Deering, adjusted the settlement of the joint debt and other matters. The Commissioners from Westbrook were James Pennell and Samuel T. Raymond.

1873

Records show that by 1880 the population of Westbrook had almost doubled. That it was a growing community during this period is indicated by the following items gathered from Portland Transcripts of 1873: "The Congregational Church at Saccarappa is undergoing complete renovation from foundation to roof, a clock has been placed in a handsome new tower at the northwest corner, the ceiling and walls of the interior are being beautifully frescoed. The Church will be an ornament to the village." Another item in an October issue states, "Twenty-four new houses have been built during the past year at Cumberland Mills." In the October 25th issue we read that, "The new hotel, The Central House, was opened for business and there were 75 guests present for supper." There is one more item of interest to fishermen which states that, "John M. Allen caught a 13 lb. Salmon from the bridge over the Presumpscot River at Saccarappa." During this year much work was done in regard to the laying of sewers and making cesspools, the S. D. Warren Company furnishing, free of cost to the town, a large amount of the material and labor used in their construction.

1880-90

It was in the 1880's that electricity was first used in Westbrook. According to Mr. O. G. K. Robinson and the late Mr. Frank Austin it was in this decade that electricity was first used for lighting purposes in Westbrook. An electric generator was installed in a small building outside the Leatherboard Mill on Main Street opposite Central Street.

On the day that the mill was to be lighted a large crowd of people gathered to witness the throwing of the switch to connect the lights. Among the employees of the mill were men who were members of the Saccarappa Lodge of Odd

Fellows and they induced Mr. Davis, owner of the mill, to run wires across the street to light the Odd Fellows Block. This was the first business block in the town to be lighted by electricity. Mr. Robinson also tells of watching workmen run wires from the mill up Central Street to the home of Mr. Davis.

About this same time, Mr. Woodbury K. Dana installed a generator in his mill, on the island, which had previously been lighted by gas. It is told that he later ran wires to what is now known as Vallee Square and furnished power for lighting the square. A short time later the S. D. Warren Company replaced their gas lights with electricity.

Information about the development of the electric power industry in Westbrook has been supplied by Mr. William B. Bragdon who, for many years, was superintendent of the electrical department of the S. D. Warren Company and the early Presumpscot Electric Company.

The "Westbrook Light and Power Co." was the first to supply electricity for general use in the town, the name later being changed to "Presumpscot Electric Co." This company continued in business until 1922 when the city lighting interests were sold to the "Cumberland County Power and Light Co." now (1951) known as the "Central Maine Power Co."

The electric power station at the lower falls of the Presumpscot River in Falmouth was built by the S. D. Warren Company in 1889, but the first generators were not installed until 1896. This station has the distinction of having been the first station in Maine and the second in New England for long distance transmission of electric power. It was dismantled in February, 1947, as the equipment had become obsolete.

The first telephone to be installed in Westbrook was at the Dana Warp Mills about 1890, and a short time later one was installed at the S. D. Warren Company.

In 1886 Sargent Files, a dairy farmer and large landowner in the Stroudwater Street area, died suddenly in his milk wagon at Cumberland Mills. Three streets in this section

derive their names from this family: Files Street being accepted in 1894, Sargent Street in 1912 and Burton Street in 1901, the latter named for a grandson, Burton Lombard, who died in boyhood. Many will remember that in the year 1888 there was a large epidemic of smallpox which incurred an expenditure by the town of \$2,513.89.

1887

In the winter of 1887 there seemed to be a general conviction that the old town government was no longer suited to its increasing needs. On Saturday afternoon, January 12, 1887, a meeting was held in Odd Fellows Hall, Saccarappa, where all citizens were given an opportunity to express their views on the advisability of asking the legislature for a City Charter.

The meeting was a large one, with many of the leading citizens of the town present, among them being Frank Haskell, Honorable C. B. Woodman, George H. Raymond, George Marriner, W. K. Dana, John W. Warren, John E. Warren, H. K. Griggs, Judge F. M. Ray, Kimball Eastman, James Pennell, W. W. Cutter, Leander Valentine, and many others. It was called to order by C. B. Woodman, Kimball Eastman was chosen chairman, and Arthur Ricker, Secretary. Mr. Eastman read the call for the meeting, and said he hoped the question of a City Charter would be fully discussed. Mr. Leander Valentine was asked to state his opinion on the advisability of asking the legislature for a City Charter, and he said, "I am not prepared to say whether I am ready to advocate this proposition or not. I have some figures which I think may be of interest to you. The population of Westbrook when it included Deering was 6,588. When Westbrook was set off it had a population of 2,887. Last year the population was 6,570, within 18 of the population of the whole town of Westbrook before it was divided."

Mr. William W. Cutter said: "I am in favor of a City Charter. It seems to me the expense of running the town under a City Charter would not be greater than it is now. I wrote to Calais to get the figures concerning the expenses of their city government. They have seven wards, and seven

aldermen, and in 1880 their population was 6,173. They pay the Mayor \$200, City Clerk \$200, and Treasurer \$200, School Committee \$300, Street Commissioner \$300, making only \$1,200 in all. I infer they pay the aldermen nothing."

Mr. W. K. Dana had this to say: "This is a subject that I have given some attention. As a general thing, it costs more to run a city than a town. They would give a great deal in Hallowell if they could get back to town government. If we become a city can we have more than one post office? We now have four, and if under City Government we are to have but one, I should be opposed to such a change. If it is for our advantage to be a city, I want to have a City Charter, if we want just as good a one as there is in the country."

Judge F. M. Ray said in part as follows: "It seems that the preponderance is in favor of a City Charter. I am not sure that the time has come for a City Charter, but as we are doing now we are running the town into the ground. Our selectmen do their duty as well as they can under town government. Perhaps it would be advisable to obtain a City Charter this year, and then if it is not satisfactory, it can be accepted later if necessary with amendments."

On motion of Judge Ray the following committee of seven was appointed to investigate the matter and report at a meeting of the citizens to be held Saturday at 3 P.M. in Odd Fellows Hall: F. M. Ray, W. W. Lamb, George Marriner, H. K. Griggs, George H. Raymond, F. C. Roberts, and Frank Haskell. The meeting then adjourned.

After due consideration and investigation the town voted to ask the legislature for a City Charter. The legislature granted the charter that year (1887), but it was not accepted and put into operation until 1891. In a Portland newspaper bearing the date of February 25, 1891 the following article appeared:

1891

At a public meeting held Monday evening in Odd Fellows Hall, there were some 400 or 500 of the town present. Mr. Charles Goodell of Cumberland Mills was chairman of the meeting, and G. F. Murch, secretary. The following question was submitted for discussion: "Resolved, That we citizens of the town of Westbrook, in public meeting assembled, favor the adoption of the charter granted by the

legislature in 1887." The affirmation of the question was earnestly and candidly presented by Mr. Frank Haskell, Judge F. M. Ray, Thomas G. Harris, John E. Warren, C. W. Dennett, W. K. Dana, Leander Valentine, H. K. Griggs, and W. W. Cutter. The only speakers in the negative were L. W. Edwards and Mr. McLellan. The question was decided almost unanimously in the affirmative at the close of the meeting, and the following resolution was adopted by a vote of more than two-thirds of those present: "Resolved, That we recommend the adoption of the Charter by the town, at the town meeting called to take action thereon, to be held in this hall on Tuesday February 24th." At the town meeting held yesterday to vote on the acceptance of the City Charter, there were 739 ballots cast, 448 in favor and 291 against, a majority of 157 to make our town a city.

The first mayor was a descendent of the Valentine family which was prominent in Westbrook for many years. William and Elizabeth Jones Valentine, of Hopkinton, Massachusetts, were the ancestors of the family of that name in Westbrook. Joseph, John and William were all in Westbrook at one time. Joseph's home was on the site of the Westbrook Congregational Church and he also owned ten acres of land near the river, formerly owned by John Tyng, Samuel Waldo and others. Joseph Valentine and his wife, Patty Burnap, came to Saccarappa in the early 1800's. John and William made hand wrought nails, and served together in the War of 1812.

The original Major William Valentine home was built in 1810, later occupied by Dexter Haskell, and is still standing on the late A. C. Chute property on Main Street. William married Abigail Spring. Of this couple, Leander was born in 1814 and became the first mayor of Westbrook in 1891. He had long been active in community affairs. He had served in both houses of the Legislature, on the Executive Council, and also as appraiser for the collection district of Portland and Falmouth. He had the distinction of being the first President of the Westbrook Trust Company from 1890 to 1895. He married Margaret Coolbroth of Gorham, Maine, and died in 1895.

He was fond of telling that, living always in the same house on Saco Street, he had lived in two cities, Portland and Westbrook, and four towns, Falmouth, Cape Elizabeth,

Stroudwater and Westbrook. In a newspaper interview in 1885 the Honorable Mr. Valentine described the village as he remembered it in 1820 when Maine was admitted to the Union:

The place was a mere hamlet consisting of perhaps a score of improvised, unpretentious and unpainted abodes. Near the present building formerly occupied by the Foster and Brown Machine Shop and originally built in 1840 by the Universalist Society were two short parallel streets running from the main road to the river on which were a few houses. Above and near was a squad of miserable tenements, called in derision the "Holy Ground." The location of this section described by Mr. Valentine was near the present location of the Shell filling station, and Lawrence Seavey's garage on upper Main Street (West End).

From the present site of the Westbrook Congregational Church for over a mile toward Portland there were only about a dozen dwellings on the left side of the road, and none on the other side. Across the river there were five or six houses, and two or three on a now abandoned street running from the Stroudwater Road back toward the Saco Road. To accomodate the fast increasing amount of travel from the great back country to Portland a hotel was built and opened in 1820.

Nine years later, when "Old Hickory" was to be inaugurated President, his numerous supporters wanted to celebrate at the hotel by holding a "Fourth of March Ball." The landlord, being a zealous Whig, would not consent, whereupon a large Jacksonian dwelling standing on the spot where the public house stands (corner of Bridge Street) was quickly made ready, and on the evening of the fourth a large rival tavern sign was swung to the breeze. It is almost needless to add that the "ball" was a great success, due no doubt, to the opposition of the old hotel.

This same year a City Seal was received by the city and is best described by the following description which was taken from an old record:

The new seal of the City has been received and adopted June 4, 1891 by vote of the City government, and a vote of thanks has been officially adopted, to be signed by the mayor and the president of the council, and forwarded to the donor, Mr. Benjamin Harris, of Portland. The seal is most satisfactory to the members of the city government. In the center of the seal is a FACSIMILE of the vessel in which Colonel Thomas Westbrook, for whom the city was named, came to Falmouth, bearing the King's Commission to select masts for the Royal Navy. Surmounting this is the crest of the Westbrook family, a mailed knee and foot. Around the seal are the words "City of Westbrook",

and the dates 1814, date of incorporation of the town, and 1891, date of incorporation of the city.

Passing of the name Saccarappa

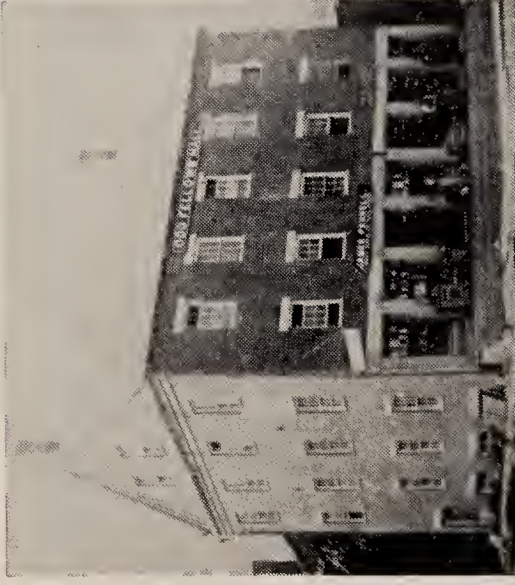
Washington records give the date November 1, 1797 for the first Post Office established in the Saccarappa section with Enoch Freeman, Jr. serving as the first postmaster. Previous to this, in 1786, mail had left Portsmouth in the morning, arrived at Kennebunk the first day and the following day was delivered at Broad's Tavern in Stroudwater. The year 1788 saw a change and all mail was dispatched from Boston and delivered twice weekly during the winter and three times a week in the summer. Residents of Saccarappa had to make the trip to Broad's Tavern to pick up their mail. It was not until 1891 that the name of the Post Office was changed to Westbrook.

Reaction of the citizens to the change in the name is well expressed by the following description:

"It will not be entirely without regret that the citizens of time honored Saccarappa will learn that the name so familiar, not only to present and past citizens, but within an ever extending radius is to be no longer officially recognized. It is sacrificed to the march of progress. Postmaster Woodman recently received an order from the Post Office Department announcing that the name of the office on July 1st, 1891, would be changed from Saccarappa to Westbrook. There had not been any request sent by the citizens to that effect and the silk and gingham industries had protested informally against any change, and this, Mr. Woodman wrote the department. He received a reply confirming the first announcement and declaring that the change was made to promote the efficiency of the service. When the new post office, therefore, is opened for public use on July 1st, it will not be Saccarappa post office, but Westbrook. There are reasons why the change is desirable. This is the principal office of four within the city limits, and it is fitting that it should bear the city's name. Still, citizens have become attached to the old name, and it will be surrendered with regret. Business interests above referred to, it is hoped, will not suffer. The Saccarappa silks and Saccarappa novelties, the products of the gingham mill, have established a reputation for excellence that cannot be affected by the change of name. They will undoubtedly still remain Saccarappa silks and Saccarappa novelties."

Sections of Westbrook

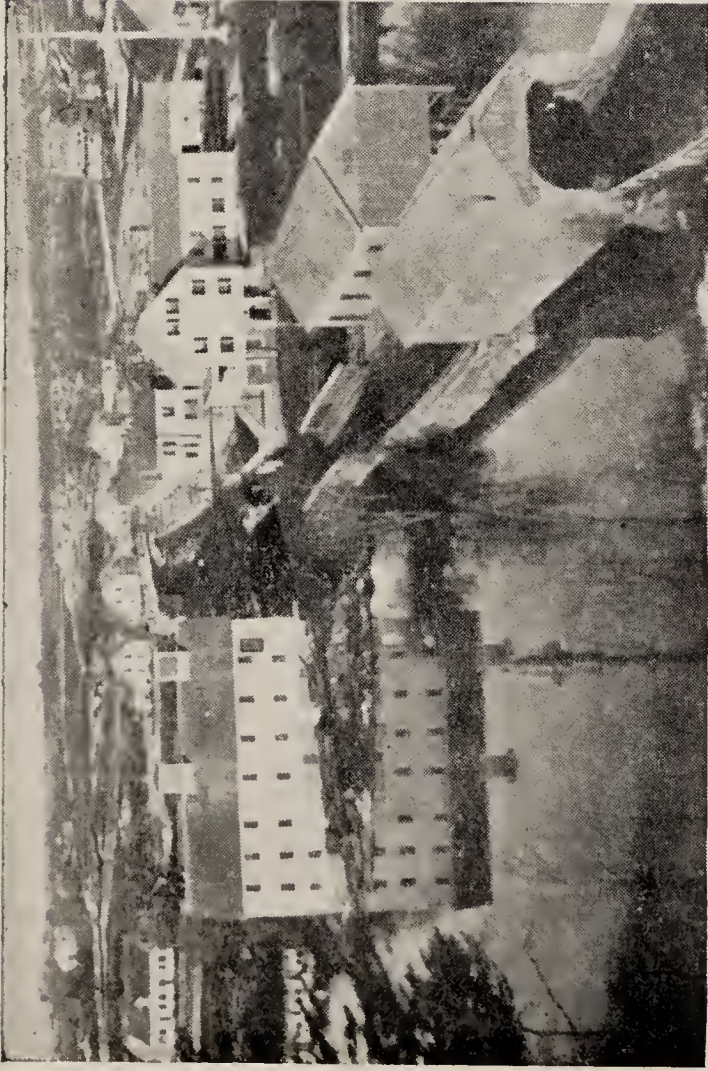
CUMBERLAND MILLS: The section of Westbrook known as Cumberland Mills has undergone a great many



Edwards Block
Presumpscot House

Saccarappa In The 1800's
Bridge Street
Brackett Block

Warren Block
Lower Church Street



Covered Bridge
Raymond House



WARREN BLOCK.
Intersection of Main and Commercial Streets



Cumberland Mills In The 1800's



Warren Block
Old Corn Shop

changes since the days when Benjamin Larrabee, Edward Gilman, and William and Marrett Lamb, Samuel Proctor, or Archelaus Lewis and Nathan Winslow owned practically all of the land comprising what is now known as Cumberland Mills.

Ammoncongin or Congin as the Indians called this section in the early days, was a part of the land included in the tract sold by the Indian Sagamore Squitterygussett, to Francis Small in 1657. Part of the deed states:

“On June 4th, 1666, two Indian Sagamores sold to George Munjoy a tract of land on the other side of the Ammoncongin River (Presumpscot) at the great falls, the upper part of them called Saccaribegg, and so down to the river unto the lowermost planting ground, the lowermost part thereof, and so from each aforesaid bounds to go directly into the woods so far as said Munjoy Wills, not exceeding one mile.” This is often referred to as “Munjoy’s Mile Square.”

There was at this time an old Indian trail, leading from Presumpscot Falls (Congin) to the Stroudwater River and the Indians are said to have named Deer Hill on lower Main Street, which, we are told, was never wooded.

Large tracts of land from the site of S. D. Warren Mills to the present Farrington Hospital (Portland), were owned in the early part of the nineteenth century by members of the Larrabee and Lamb families. At this time this section was largely pasture and woodland with very few houses. Lamb Street, which was accepted in 1894 and Marrett Street derive their names from the Lamb family.

The first Post Office (about 1870) at Cumberland Mills was in a story and a half building at the corner of Main and Lamb Streets, and William W. Lamb was the postmaster. The present highway from Cumberland Mills to Portland is said to have been built about 1838. Records state that in 1842 there were only five or six houses and one store at Congin.

The first paper mill was built here in 1845. For many years the Cumberland Mills section was referred to as Congin, and did not develop as rapidly as did its sister village Saccarappa. This was probably due to the fact that there were two falls in the Presumpscot River at that point making it possible

to build two dams, and thus provide power to a greater number of industries. Population of this section increased slowly for a time but when Samuel D. Warren purchased Day and Lyon's paper mill in 1854 the village began to grow. The S. D. Warren mills were named "The Cumberland Mills" and as this name became popular with the inhabitants it has continued through the years to identify this section of our city.

HIGHLAND LAKE: There is a tradition that the Duck Pond section of Westbrook derived its name from the body of water near the settlement where, in the early days, wild ducks were quite plentiful at certain times of the year. As the years passed and the population realized what a beautiful body of water it was, and because its location is about 171 feet above tide water, it was thought that the lake should bear a more dignified name and be more in keeping with the surroundings, and it became known as Highland Lake.

No record has been found stating definitely who was the first English settler in this section of Westbrook, but it is known that Moses Pearson sold Joseph Conant land at Duck Pond at an early date, and that, in 1764, Mr. Conant conveyed his holdings to his two sons, Joseph Jr. and Bartholomew. The latter is said to have lived on his farm in this section for some years. History states that the Conant lands later came into the hands of James Gowen.

The outlet of the lake known as Duck Pond stream provided power to operate several industries, the volume of water being much greater in the early days than now. Among these industries late in the nineteenth century were: The Cumberland Bone Manufacturing Company; The Portland Wooden Ware Company making pails and tubs; Thayer and Elder, steam mill, and also dealers in shook and long and short lumber. Records give us the names of early land owners among whom we find: Pearson, Conant, Proctor, Lunt, Pride, Porter, Woodbury and several others.

PRIDE'S CORNER: In 1726 Isaac Savage and Joseph

Pride, the first immigrants of that name, came to Falmouth with their families. Joseph Pride is said to have lived at Back Cove, on April 12, 1728. Joseph and Sarah Pride had a daughter Amy, born before they settled here, and a son Joseph, born in Falmouth. It was probably Amy who married Benjamin Larrabee, and it was their daughter Elizabeth, born in 1732 who married John Webb.

Judge F. M. Ray writes of the Prides as follows: "There is no evidence that the elder Joseph Pride ever occupied his grant of one hundred acres, but on or near it persons of that name lived for many years, having acquired their homes by inheritance from ancestors who had long been domiciled within our present town limits. The elder Joseph Pride was probably in middle age when he 'emigrated' to this vicinity."

Peter Pride, a grandson of Joseph, conducted a store at Pride's Corner at an early date, and there is a tradition that it was he who gave the land for the first school house at Pride's Corner. We are unable to find any record stating when the first school was built, but the school committee record book under the date of 1845, states that "the school was in very poor condition and should be repaired or a new one built in its place." The old brick school house now in use (June 4, 1951) was built in 1869. Other members of the family, James, Ansel and Hannah Pride lived at Pride's Corner for many years.

The old Blacksmith Shop, long a familiar sight at Pride's Corner, was built and operated by Mr. George Bayley. Among others who settled at or near this section in the early days we find the names of Proctor, Lunt, Walker, Webb, Snow, Cox, Bailey and Jones.

Small Industries 1800-1900

More complete histories of the larger industries in Westbrook will be found in a succeeding chapter, but it may be of interest to record briefly some of the occupations that were a part of Westbrook's business life during the nineteenth century. Until well toward the end of this century the itinerant trader in all sorts of wares found a warm welcome in the villages and in the scattered homes of farmers.

Early in 1800 the making of pewter dishes by pewterers was a flourishing industry on Stevens Avenue (Morrill's Corner), then a part of the town of Westbrook. Two brothers, Allen and Freeman Porter, started the manufacture of pewter and later took on as an apprentice Rufus Dunham. It is reported that he bound himself as an apprentice to Mr. Porter for his board, \$50 in cash and two suits of clothes a year. At this time he was about sixteen years of age, and when on a trip to Stevens Plains, had been interested by a display of pewter, decorated Japanned ware and high backed horn combs in the shop windows. At this time Stevens Plains was headquarters for many tin peddlers who traveled through Maine, New Brunswick, Nova Scotia and eastern Canada.

He stayed with Mr. Porter until about 1833 when he went to Boston, but returned a few years later to open his own shop at Stevens Plains. He became well known for his Brittania ware which differs from pewter. At first he sold his product in Portland but later he took to the road and travelled over the only Maine thoroughfare open all winter which went by the way of Crawford Notch to Montreal bartering Brittania ware for pelts. He sent the skins to tanneries, bristles to brush makers, bones to comb makers and furs to Europe.

There was also a large colony of tinsmiths in this section and probably the best known was Zachariah Stevens for whom Stevens Plains was named. He was well known for his Japanned ware. Today products made by these men have become collector's items for antique lovers. From 1800 to 1835 the tin carts were an important feature of the road, but John Pennell and others of the family in Westbrook were able to continue their routes well into the nineties. Mr. Pennell was the father of Miss Lillian Pennell, a retired Westbrook teacher now (1951) living on Spring Street.

Nathan Winslow, a grandson of James Winslow, and a prominent businessman in Falmouth and early Westbrook is credited as having started what is now a colossal industry in most parts of the United States, the preservation of food

products in tin cans by what is known as the process of hermetic sealing. This first sweet corn canned experimentally for Mr. Winslow was processed in what was then a woodshed at Cumberland Mills, during the year 1829. Sometime later a large corn shop was built on the present site of The Elms, a private hotel conducted by the S. D. Warren Company. This shop was operated by J. Winslow Jones, who is believed to be the first man to pack corn in this vicinity.

Davis and Baxter operated a large corn shop on the site of the old swimming pool belonging to the Westbrook Community Association. In those days women cut the corn from the cob by hand.

An old newspaper item states that sometime about 1850 paper bags were made by hand in Westbrook in a shop under the old Universalist Church on upper Main Street by Mark Adams, grandfather of the late Ernest Adams. He cut out the paper patterns and farmed them out among the girls and boys of the town for pasting. In this century nearly everything was made by hand, and blacksmith shops were a familiar sight where such things as locks, hasps, padlocks and staples were made in addition to shoeing the horses and oxen. Among the blacksmiths were Edmund Woodbury, Charles London, and Samuel McClellan. Handwrought nails were made by several people. Among the pioneer nail makers was Major William Valentine, father of the first mayor.

Another industry carried on by George Rogers was the making of steel knives and forks which were universally used during the middle part of the century. His factory was near the river where the Duck Mill formerly stood. Among the early small mills were listed the following: John W. Warren, cotton warp mill; Keeler & Bailey, underwear mill; a leatherboard mill managed by George R. Davis; George H. Raymond, feed and grain mill; and Crocker and Dunn, cotton renovating mill.

In the early part of this century, 1803, among the family names of political and business leaders in the town, many of whom have descendents here today, were: Akers, Brack-

ett, Freman, Edwards, Hayes, Lamb, Webb, Bailey, Haskell, Knight, Johnson, Riggs, Merrill, Pennell and Morse. By 1814 people of prominence in the town were: Nathaniel Partridge, Silas Estes, Archelaus Lewis, Jonathan Sparrow, Randall Johnson, Joseph Valentine, Zachariah B. Stevens, Luther Fitch, Thomas Slemmons and John Jones.

Legends

MYSTERY OF WESTBROOK LEDGES: By common practice the term Westbrook Ledges usually refers to the southwesterly corner of Rocky Hill near the junction of Pierce Street and the old River Road, now an extension of Cumberland Street. The very great beauty of these ledges was sadly marred some years ago when the city installed a stone crusher there to obtain crushed rock for building roads. Rocky Hill covers an area approximately three and one-half miles long, and rises at least two hundred and forty feet. Years ago an old stage road, a link on the way to the White Mountains, ran from Pierce Street, then between the Ledges and the farm recently occupied by Mrs. Mable Morris, and on over the hill joining the present Roosevelt Trail in the vicinity of Highland Lake. It may have merged with the present Methodist Road. Long after the eighteenth century began, the end near the Ledges was plainly marked, still serving as a cart track and logging road.

There is a legend that late in the eighteenth century, on an old road at the easterly base of the Ledges lived two dour faced and unneighborly men named Proctor. They had a small farm and raised cattle, and did much logging. This old road has disappeared entirely or may have become part of the section of Cumberland Street between Pierce Street and the "Four Corners". If, as some think, the old road is the present Methodist Road, then the Ledges referred to would have to be the old quarries near the Griggs Farm.

One fall an Englishman, giving his name as Kronk or Cronk, came along from one of the ships in Portland looking for work, and was hired by the Proctor brothers. He worked hard all day long through the winter, receiving only his food and lodging. In the spring when no money was forthcoming

he threatened to sue the brothers for his winter's pay. About that time horrible noises were heard by people having passing errands in the neighborhood. Cronk's absence was noticed also. The Proctors showed only stolid ignorance when questioned by investigators. They said that Cronk mentioned having business in Portland and, when he did not return, they presumed that he went the way he had come, by taking passage on some English boat in the harbor. As the man was a stranger the matter was dropped. Interest flared up again on two occasions, when a short time later one brother fell from his ox cart and died, and later when the second Proctor was killed by a falling tree. In that day and in a section where news was scarce and people still believed in retribution, the story of the unsolved mystery and the subsequent tragedies was kept alive by speculation for more than a hundred years.

WHERE IS WESTBROOK?: The following tale, written in 1887 and said to be founded on fact, has become almost a legend in the community. It bears recording because, in an amusing way, it tells of the confusion resulting from the various names used for different sections of our city over a period of years. Sometime in the eighteen hundreds a letter was received by a Miss Mehitable Spriggins living in a large old fashioned farmhouse in the eastern part of Maine. It bore a postmark with three legible letters "Sac" but, inside, the letter heading was "Westbrook" and it contained an invitation for a visit. She was told by her nephew, James Spriggins, that she would be met at "the depot, Tuesday next, without fail."

After locating Westbrook and finding that it was just beyond Portland she started her journey. On arriving at the station in Portland she purchased her train ticket for Westbrook and soon heard the cry "Train ready for Westbrook, Little Falls, White Rock, Baldwin and the Mountains." She boarded the train and was hardly seated before she heard the call, "Westbrook." She left the train but nowhere on the platform was her nephew and, on inquiry, she was told that

she was in "Cumberland Mills." The explanation followed that it was a part of Westbrook but no doubt she wanted the part of Westbrook that was on the Maine Central Railroad. What must she do? Return to Portland by train and take the other line. This she did, again boarded a train and soon heard again the cry, "Westbrook." Collecting her luggage she alighted and seeing no familiar face, asked a boy if this was "Westbrook". The reply came that this was "Morrill's Corner" and she became more perplexed than ever. She next approached a man who explained that the name was "Stevens' Plains." A third inquiry brought the answer that she was in "Deering."

Rather confused by this time she asked for some explanation whereupon the man explained, "This place is Morrill's Corner, or Stevens' Plains, situated in the town of Deering. It is called Westbrook because it has always been known by that name and formerly was situated in the town of Westbrook. Do you understand?" Of course she didn't but asked for directions to the Westbrook Post Office. Being told that Westbrook was a large place and that a stage coach passed by the station and would take her there she waited and soon was rattling over the rough roads. After about an hour's ride the stage stopped before a small store. To her amazement the place looked very small but she alighted, entered the store and asked, "Is this Westbrook, and where is the depot?" The reply came, "This is the Westbrook Post Office. It is in Westbrook but it is usually called Pride's Corner and there is no depot within three miles of here."

The stage driver, trying to be helpful then suggested that there was another post office bevond called "North Westbrook" and perhaps that was where she wanted to go. By this time Miss Mehitable was completely confused and suggested that no doubt by the time she reached there she would be told that it was called something else. Whereupon the driver admitted that the place was locally known as "Duck Pond." In desperation she asked if either of them knew her nephew whose name was Spriggins and who lived in Westbrook. Oh yes, they both knew a Spriggins who lived in

Saccarappa! At which Miss Mehitable threw up her hands and demanded to be taken to a train, that she might go home where places were called by their right names.

At the present time (1951) confusion still is evident, especially to those not too familiar with Westbrook and its environs, for many times mail is addressed to the "Town Clerk, Cumberland Mills", "Town Clerk, Duck Pond", "Town Clerk, Highland Lake" instead of to the "City Clerk, Westbrook."

Maine Sculptor

On July 10, 1825 Benjamin Paul Akers, Maine's own sculptor was born in the old Conant house located on Pork Hill (Park Hill) Saccarappa, now Westbrook. He was the eldest of eleven children. His father was a wood turner by trade, while his mother was a woman of culture. In early life he found a position in a printing office in Portland. One day during his lunch hour he strolled up Congress Street and noticed on display in a store window, a piece of sculpture, the bust of a noted personage, by a noted sculptor. He was greatly impressed by the fine workmanship, and decided then and there to become a sculptor. He gave up his position at the printing office, went to Boston and studied plaster casting with Carew. He later made several busts, among them being those of the poet Longfellow and Neal Dow. In 1850 he opened a studio on Congress Street, Portland.

In the fall of 1852 he made a trip abroad, studying for a year in Florence, Italy. He returned to Portland in 1853, and the next year he went to Washington, D. C. He modelled busts of noted men, among them were Edward Everett and Sam Huston. He again visited Europe, passing a number of years in travel and crossing the Alps on foot.

During these few years he produced his best known works, which gave the young artist renowned fame. While in Rome, Italy, he became acquainted with Nathaniel Hawthorne, which resulted in a lasting friendship. At this time the sculptor was at work on a number of statues, turning into marble some of his previous models. The head of Milton can be seen at Colby College, Waterville, Maine. The "Dead Pearl

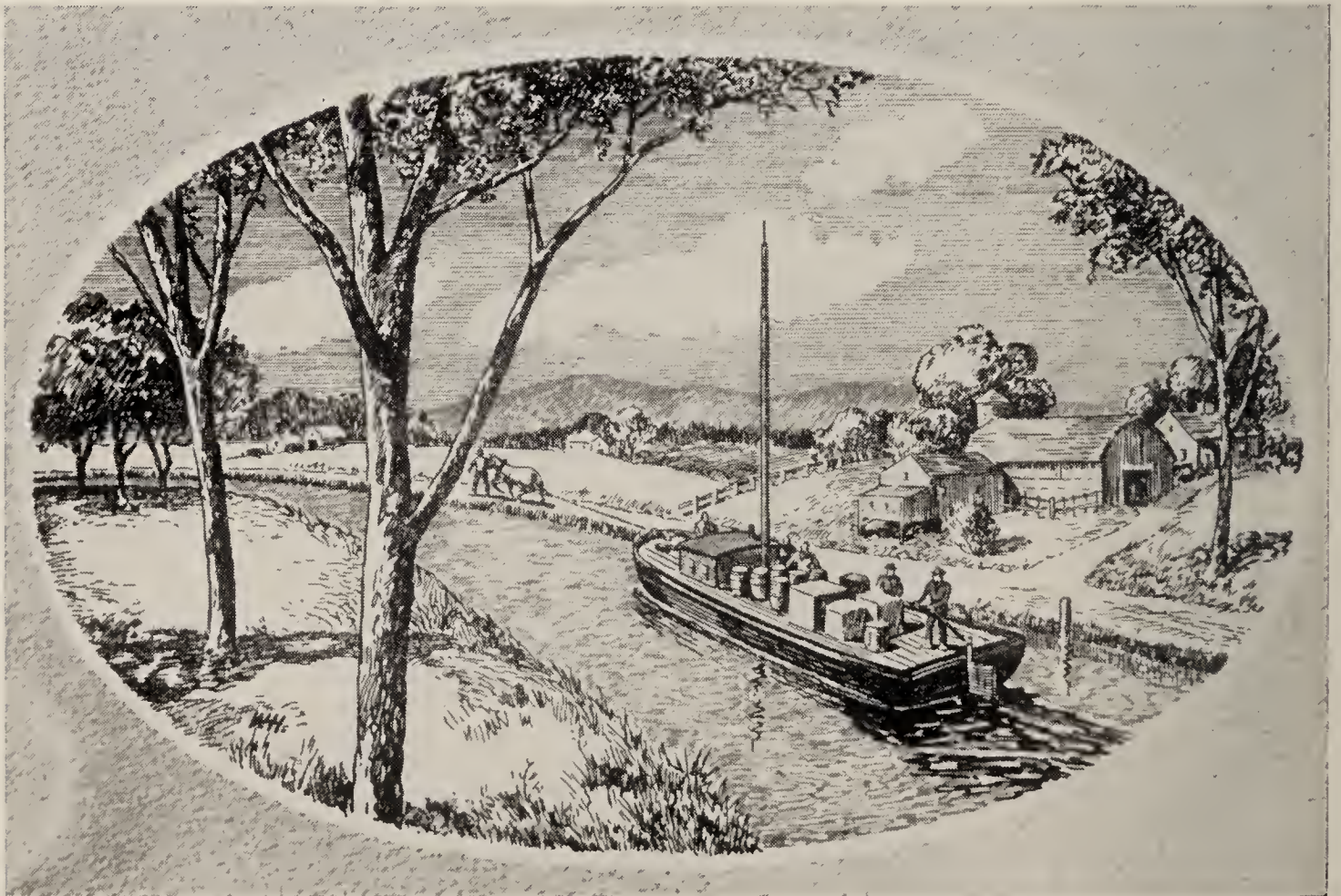
Diver," considered by many to be his masterpiece, and which was brought from Italy with money subscribed by Portland citizens, was placed in the Portland Public Library in 1889. Later it was removed to the Swett Memorial Art Museum, where it is now (1951) on display. Mr. Akers died in Philadelphia in 1861.



Old Conant House On Pork Hill, Birthplace Of Paul Akers



Benjamin Paul Akers
Maine Sculptor



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Cumberland And Oxford Canal, Longfellow Street
Near The Warren Homestead

Canal Boat

CHAPTER 5

TRANSPORTATION AND COMMUNICATION

TRANSPORTATION as well as communication in Maine was difficult in the early days and most of the first settlements were made along the seacoast. There were some roads in Massachusetts in 1650, but we find that in 1653, when the commissioners of Massachusetts attempted to visit some of the early towns in Maine, they found it impossible to get beyond Wells, for want of a suitable road. They ordered Cape Porpoise to lay out a way from house to house "fit for foot and cart." In all probability this was located along the seashore as it was mostly open country and would lessen the likelihood of an ambush by Indians. It is said that this was the only road used as late as 1725, and was known as the King's Highway.

Shortly after this date roads began to be built in Falmouth. The early settlers voted to build the first highway from what is now known as India Street in Portland to Libby's Corner connecting with the King's Highway at Stroudwater. On October 10th, 1735, a jury convened by the sheriff, laid out a highway from the bridge below the paper mill at Stroudwater to North Yarmouth. A road was later built from North Yarmouth to New Gloucester in 1742-44.

Daniel Godfrey is said to have swamped out the first road in Saccarappa for the passage of lumber teams. This was undoubtedly a part of our Main Street. About this same time in 1735 Colonel Westbrook laid out a road from Saccarappa to Stroudwater over which mast logs were hauled to tide water at Fore River. This road later became known as Stroudwater Street. The building of this road provided a more direct route for settlers of this section to reach the King's Highway leading to Boston.

Mails were first carried by Post riders, and later by wagons. In 1793 the first attempt was made to carry passengers beyond Portland. During the War of 1812 a somewhat irregular stage line was started between Portland and Boston, but was discontinued for want of patronage. In 1818 an accommodation stage line for passengers was established,

running between Portland and Boston three times a week. Two days were required to make the trip. A short time later an express stage line was established. This stage left Portland at two o'clock in the morning, and, if the roads were in good condition, arrived in Boston at ten o'clock that night.

RAILROADS: By 1774 James Watt had demonstrated an engine run by condensed steam and, by 1807, Robert Fulton had a steamboat operating on the Hudson River. In 1822 Seward Porter ran a flat bottom scow propelled by steam about Casco Bay just as a curiosity. Experimental steam railroads were built, with crude wood burning engines, capable of hauling a few light weight cars at a slow pace. By 1830 we find there were more than fourteen hundred miles of railroads in the country, and four years later the number of miles in actual operation exceeded three thousand. In 1833 the Boston and Maine Railroad was incorporated, but for nine years operated only to Wilmington, Massachusetts.

The first railroad leading from Portland toward Boston was the Portland, Saco and Portsmouth. It received its charter in 1837, and by 1842 had completed fifty-one miles of track. The Boston and Maine Railroad was extended so as to connect with this Portland, Saco and Portsmouth line at South Berwick. In 1845 a charter was obtained for the Atlantic and St. Lawrence Railroad from Portland to Montreal, Canada. This road was completed and opened to Montreal in 1853 and to Quebec in 1854. Subsequently it was leased to the Grand Trunk Railroad of Canada for 999 years. This railroad is now (1951) a part of the Canadian National Railway System. In 1845 a charter was obtained for the Androscoggin and Kennebec Railroad Company and this road was opened for operation in 1849, running from the Atlantic and St. Lawrence Railway at Danville Junction to Waterville, a distance of 55 miles. There a connection was made with the Penobscot and Kennebec Railroad which began operation in 1855 and extended to Bangor. About the same time the Kennebec and Portland Railroad was built reaching from Portland to the head of navigation at Augusta,

a distance of sixty miles with a branch nine miles in length from Brunswick to Bath. These railroads are now (1951) a part of the Maine Central Railroad system.

The York and Cumberland Railroad was chartered July 30, 1846, and built from Portland to the Saco River at Buxton, providing direct rail transportation for Westbrook. The speed and riding qualities of these trains may well be described by the following anecdotes as told by an early resident of Westbrook: In the early days, the old wood burning locomotives used on the York and Cumberland Railroad experienced considerable difficulty in negotiating the long winding grade between Westbrook and Gorham. It is said that one day a passenger got off the slowly moving train a short distance beyond Westbrook, picked four quarts of blueberries found growing beside the track, and caught the train again before it reached Gorham.

The cars of those early trains were not equipped with air brakes and automatic couplings between cars as they are today. Brakemen used a link and pin in connecting cars together. This type of coupling left a great deal of lost motion between cars when stopping or starting the train and each successive car in the train received a sharp yank as the slack between cars was taken up. Because of this disagreeable feature the passengers nicknamed the line "The York and Yankum".

In 1860 this road was reorganized as the Portland and Rochester Railroad, and the company operated several trains each day to and from Portland. The Westbrook station of the old Portland and Rochester Railroad was a busy place sixty years ago as there were three regular passenger trains each way every day excepting Sunday. On week days, before the electric street railroad was built, several short trains made trips from Portland through Westbrook to Gorham where the engine was turned around on a turntable and the train then returned to Portland. This short train service provided Westbrook citizens with transportation to and from Portland at frequent intervals.

There were several freight trains each day, bringing coal,

cotton, grain and groceries, and taking away cotton products from the Dana Mills, silk from the Haskell Silk Mill and lumber and cord wood from outlying districts. Each fall the Rochester and Gorham fairs attracted large numbers of people from Portland and Westbrook which required extra trains of twelve or more cars to transport the crowds. The old Portland and Rochester railway station in Portland was located on Kennebec Street, and all trains leaving this station passed through Woodfords and Morrill's Corner to Cumberland Mills.

In 1900 the Boston and Maine Railroad purchased the Portland and Rochester Railroad and for several years continued to operate passenger and freight trains each day through Westbrook and to points beyond. For a short time a through passenger train from Portland to New York passed through Westbrook each evening. After the purchase of this railroad by the Boston and Maine Railroad the Kennebec Street station was abandoned, as was also the track and right of way through Woodfords and Morrill's Corner. All Portland to Rochester trains were rerouted and run from Union Station in Portland over the Maine Central, Mountain Division, to Cumberland Mills, where it rejoined its original right of way to Rochester, New Hampshire.

A sharp decline in passenger and freight revenue, due to the widespread use of automobiles and heavy duty trucks, made the operation of the line unprofitable, and service beyond Westbrook was discontinued. About 1916 the Westbrook station was closed and the station agent transferred to the Cumberland Mills station. In July 1949 that portion of the line, extending from Westbrook to Rochester, New Hampshire, was sold for twenty-five thousand dollars, to the Sanford and Eastern Corporation, with Mr. S. M. Pinsley as its president. This line now operates between Gorham, Maine, and Rochester, New Hampshire, using modern Diesel locomotives.

The Portland and Ogdensburg Railroad was begun in 1869, a project of Mr. John Poore, for a route from Portland, through Westbrook and the White Mountains, to

Ogdensburg, Vermont. In 1870 the road was built and put into operation from Portland as far as Sebago Lake, a distance of seventeen miles. By 1875 the line was completed to Vermont and opened for through travel. The officials of this railroad visualized in Sebago Lake the possibility of making a summer resort near their right of way as there was a fine long sandy beach and a fine pine grove nearby where picnics could be held. The company built a large railway station at the lake near the beach and grove and many excursions were run to the lake with profit to the railroad.

All went well until the Portland Water Company bought much of the land and all bathing was prohibited near the intake of the water company's pipe line, thus ending the possibility of the location ever becoming a summer resort. The large railway station has been torn down and the trees in the grove have been removed. Trains continue to stop there to leave and take on passengers but no station has replaced the one dismantled some years ago.

In the early 1900's Cumberland Mills Station was very active located as it was at the junction of the two railroad lines. Daily commuters and shoppers used the trains for transportation to and from Portland and, during the summer and fall seasons, many excursion trips were made to the White Mountains and Sebago Lake by Westbrook groups. The Maine Central Railroad Company now operates buses from North Conway, New Hampshire, through Westbrook to Portland.

For about forty years previous to the building of railroads a canal from Sebago Lake to Stroudwater provided means of transportation for both freight and passengers.

THE CUMBERLAND AND OXFORD CANAL: We are indebted to Mr. Philip I. Milliken of Portland, Maine, whose article on the "Cumberland and Oxford Canal and the Canal Bank" has provided the greater part of the following information.

As early as 1791, a committee was chosen to ascertain the practicability of building "A canal from Sebago Pond to

the Presumpscot River". This committee in their report declared that the products of the country could be brought to the Falls at Saccarappa from a distance of some sixty miles. As a result of this report, in 1795, Woodbury Storer and others of Portland obtained from the General Court of Massachusetts an act of incorporation under the name of "Cumberland Canal Company" to open a canal from the Lake to Presumpscot River at Saccarappa.

Another corporation was incorporated at the same time called the "Proprietors of the Falmouth Canal" for the purpose of uniting the waters of Presumpscot with those of Fore River at Portland. The first charter only allowed a capital of \$20,000 which in 1804 was increased to \$120,000. But after ten years' effort they were unable to raise the necessary funds. An extension of their charter for five years gave no better results.

It became evident that the undertaking would be much more expensive than its hopeful projectors had dreamed and these charters lapsed. The commercial depression, resulting from the War of 1812, caused such extensive plans of internal improvements to be held in abeyance but, as business grew better, there began to be a general spirit of enterprise and the project was revived. This project was planned before Maine became a separate state and while this section was still a part of Massachusetts. At that time there were no railroads by which lumber and farm products from Oxford County and upper Cumberland County could be transported to Portland.

In 1821 after Maine had become a state a charter was granted by the newly organized State Legislature to several business men to construct a canal from Waterford in Oxford County, to navigable waters at Fore River, under the name of the "Cumberland and Oxford Canal Corporation". Mr. Holmes Hutchinson, an engineer connected for several years with the Erie Canal project, was employed to survey and give an estimate of the cost of the undertaking. His report gave the distance from the Lake to tide water to be fifteen and three-quarters miles, with an estimated cost of

\$137,345.13 for construction, whereby water communication would be extended more than forty-five miles into the interior connecting with a district having an abundant supply of material. He also reported that wood costing four dollars a cord in Portland could be transported by canal and delivered in Portland at a price of three dollars per cord. Portland consumed annually about 20,000 cords of wood which could result in an annual saving of about \$20,000.

In Westbrook a large saving was estimated and the best judges in Saccarappa figured that the quantity of boards manufactured annually amounted to *one hundred and fifty hundred thousand feet*. The cost for hauling that quantity of boards to Portland market was \$20,000 while transporting by canal would cost only \$11,250. Another advantage worthy of consideration by Westbrook would be the saving in the upkeep of roads.

Great difficulty was experienced in raising funds for the project. The State Legislature in 1823 created a lottery to raise \$50,000, the money to be used for the construction of the canal. The lottery was to run for ten years unless the authorized \$50,000 was sooner raised. The tickets had an extensive sale both within and outside the state.

It is related that the capital prize in one of the drawings fell to Cyrus Shaw, a deacon of the Baptist Church, who lived in what is now Oxford. He was a cousin of Elias Shaw, the agent to sell tickets, and had received from the latter a small bunch of tickets to sell. Those he did not dispose of, he bought himself, and the lucky number proved to be among them, on which he won the prize of \$5,000. The lucky deacon used part of this prize money in the building of a new Baptist Church at Oxford . . . In spite of the enticing clauses of the lottery and the stirring call to public duty, with its alluring prophecy of fame . . . the lottery did not yield the hoped for amount of cash. However, the promoters persevered and sought and obtained from the sympathetic legislature further encouragement and aid.

In 1825 the Canal Bank was chartered with a capital of \$300,000 and one of the principal conditions of the charter

was that a quarter part of its capital stock should be invested in the stock of the Canal Company. The incorporators were: Woodbury Storer, Cotton B. Brooks, Phineas Varnum, Nathaniel Mitchell, Josiah Pierce, John Perley, John T. Smith, Eli Longley and Samuel Andrews. All of these, except Brooks and Andrews, were original directors of the Canal Company. Interlocking directorates were, however, prohibited, but in 1839 this restriction was repealed. In this same year, the Canal Company reduced the number of its directors to five and changed their title to "Commissioners". Thus the Canal Bank came into being, and has had a long and successful career, and is today one of the soundest of Portland's financial institutions.

With these aids and that of individual subscriptions and loans from the Bank, work was begun on construction of the Canal in 1825, and completed in 1830, at an expense of \$206,000. The cost of construction thus greatly exceeded the engineer's original estimate of \$130,000. To meet this extra cost, the Canal Company, as early as 1829, was forced to borrow from the Canal Bank. The Legislature had authorized the Company to do this by an act of that year.

On July 1, 1829, it executed a mortgage to the President and Directors and Company of the Canal Bank, "to secure the payment of thirty thousand in three equal payments, the last being due September 1, 1834, with seven per cent interest." The security was "one-half part of all income and tolls in said Canal and the locks thereon". Less than two months after this mortgage, the Canal Company again secured financial aid from the Bank by a mortgage dated August 28, 1829, whereby the remaining half of the tolls were conveyed as security for \$30,000 payable in \$10,000 installments, August 28, 1832, October 1, 1833, and November 1, 1834, respectively, with eight per cent interest. On October 6, 1830, a third mortgage was executed to the Bank covering all right, title and interest in Canal, locks, etc., with the right to all tolls and income, for \$13,500 which it agreed to pay in one year, with interest and premium of \$1,500. Thus the enterprise was heavily handicapped from the start by heavy

fixed charges, for these various loans amounted to \$73,500 and the rate of interest was high.

The Canal started at the Basin, near White's Bridge, on the Lake in the town of Standish and followed the course of the Presumpscot River, the outlet to Sebago Lake, through the towns of Standish, Windham and Gorham to a point a little above the mills at Westbrook, where it left the river and cut across the country to Stroudwater, terminating at a point near the foot of Clark Street in Portland. Later, the terminus was the "Basin" at Thompson's Point. This was the Canal proper, the portion constructed by excavation. The entire distance opened up to navigation to the head of Long Pond at Harrison Village was about eighteen miles additional, thus making some thirty-eight miles in all available for navigation.

The general construction gave a water surface thirty feet wide at the surface and ten feet wide at the bottom, with an average depth of some three and a half feet. The tow-path was built of sufficient width to allow horses towing meeting boats to easily pass each other. Sebago Lake is some two hundred and eighty feet above tide water, and this, with the contour of the route required the construction of twenty-seven locks. These were eighty feet long, from outside to outside, and ten feet wide. The sides were of heavy stone masonry, with ponderous wooden gates at the ends, operated by heavy timbers called balance beams. At the bottom of the wooden gates were smaller ones of iron which could be closed and opened by long iron spindles worked by wrenches.

The locations of these locks were two at Horse Beef and two at Little Falls, Windham, one at Gambo, two at Kemps, one at Dundee Falls, one at Sandbank, two at Whitney's Falls, two at Great Falls, one about a half mile above, two at middle dam, one at Steep Falls, and another at the road leading from North Windham to Standish. Each lock gave an average fall of ten feet and the Canal had a fall of about one foot to the mile. To these must be added the lock on the Songo River, thus making twenty-eight locks in all. A large part of the cost of maintenance was the keeping in repair

of these locks. Each lock required a lock tender.

At Stroudwater was the Company's repair shop which, for thirty consecutive years, was under the charge of Joseph C. Larry, an old time blacksmith of Little Falls. His assistant was Captain Edmund Dorset of the same place. The Company also maintained a boat for repairs along the line. It thus appears that with the superintendent, toll collectors and extra men always needed to repair breaks in the banks, the Company employed quite a numerous force. The lock tenders were generally characters, the boatmen as a rule wore red shirts and nobody, including the tow-horse grazing on the tow-path bank, was in any particular hurry.

The boats were clumsy affairs. They were blunt at the bows, square sterns, flat bottoms with a heavy centerboard, to be used in crossing the lake when the wind was not favorable to sailing before it. Two short masts with comparatively small sail area furnished the motive power after the tow-line was cast off. These masts worked on a pin and had to be lowered in passage through the Canal on account of overhead bridges. The boats varied somewhat in size, the largest having a carrying capacity of some thirty tons.

The first boat to make the passage was properly named the George Washington. Mr. Solomon Cloudman, one of the early residents, has told of seeing the boats and that the George Washington was gayly painted in stripes of red, white and blue. On its stern were the carved heads of George and Martha Washington and above, in a half circle, was the name of George Washington. On the first trip the passengers were the stockholders and business men of Portland, Westbrook, Gorham, Sebago and Standish. This boat was fitted to carry passengers and had a bar, but the patronage of the thirsty was limited, and the travel light. So the George Washington was degraded from its high estate, its fine ornaments stripped off and it became a straight freighter.

Within a year after the Canal was opened for business, nearly a hundred boats were plying on its waters. This number, in a short time, rose to above a hundred and fifty which was about the high water mark in registered boats. Large

amounts of lumber, shook, hoops, cordwood, and farm products were shipped to the city; groceries, furniture and other manufactured articles were in the return cargoes. Toll rates varied on different articles and were figured at so much per mile. Apples paid three mills per mile for each barrel; powder five cents a ton for each mile; lumber in the form of boards, three to seven cents; masts and spars seven dollars a load, flat; and wood for fuel, two to three cents a mile per cord.

In the early days, there was a special tariff on "spirits". The loss of a cask from one of the boats is said to have given the name to Brandy Pond. Its remains, if any exist, still repose on its sandy bottom. Boats bound toward Portland were subject to a lockage charge of six cents for each lock. Passengers paid half a cent a mile with no reduction for children. All boats were required by law to be registered at the office of Collector of Tolls. No boat was allowed to move in the Canal faster than four miles an hour, and had to sound a trumpet when within five hundred feet of a lock.

In 1850, the earnings took a decided slump. The building of the Atlantic & St. Lawrence Railroad, passing through several towns in Oxford County and offering quicker transit to many others, diverted a considerable portion of traffic which prior thereto had gone by the Canal. As the Canal had little more than earned its operating expenses and fixed charges, this was a blow which the Company could not successfully resist. It defaulted its interest payments and the bank finally took possession under its several mortgages. The latter wisely faced its loss and sold the property to Isaac Dyer, who in turn sold a half interest to Francis O. J. Smith. Thomas S. Abbot was made Superintendent, and was given the right to acquire an eighth interest, but he never completed his payments and Smith and Dyer became sole owners of the entire property. Mr. Dyer was at that time engaged in very extensive lumbering operations in the regions served by the Canal, and it was a serious matter to him to have it closed.

It is inaccurate to say that the Canal never paid. For

several years it paid, over the running expenses, the entire interest on its construction cost, and later, part of it. It would probably have continued to yield the new proprietors some return on the investment if something had not happened. That something was the building of the Portland and Ogdensburg Railroad, which, running by the foot of Sebago Lake to Portland, relieved the shippers of Upper Cumberland County from paying toll to the Canal. It may be of interest to mention here that a relative of Mr. Luther Fitch of Sebago tells us that Mr. Fitch made two round trips to Boston on one of the old Canal boats. Considering the fact that these boats were not designed for sailing on salt water his trip was a most unusual accomplishment.

As early as 1868, the probability of its ultimate ruin became apparent and the owners evidently wanted to dispose of it. The old correspondence indicates that there were several prospective purchasers, but they never could agree upon a price. Mr. Smith wanted damages for some interests at Presumpscot Falls. Mr. Dyer wanted to retain the Basin. The Portland Water Company had begun the construction of its line from the Lake, and seems to have run afoul of the Canal interests.

In a letter to Mr. Dyer, Mr. Smith told him he had been informed "that the Water Company has attempted to cross our Canal with one pipe line. Mr. Barrett has stopped them. (Mr. Barrett was treasurer of the Canal interests). Nobody can touch our Canal property. The Legislature has no authority to authorize any company or person, or interest, to touch our soil. Our charter makes us expressly independent of Legislative power, and perpetually. Fight to the bitter end, all such encroachments". The above advice was given to Mr. Dyer and is characteristic of Mr. Smith. His protest did not prevail, and proceedings by the Attorney General, Thomas B. Reed, on behalf of the State, on the ground of non-use of corporate franchises, resulted in an annulment of the charter. The result was secured, however, not by any decision on the merits of the case, but by default caused by Mr. Smith's neglect to properly defend the case.

The owners immediately secured a new charter for the section of the Canal from the foot of the Lake to Gambo (Newhall, Windham) Falls on the Presumpscot River. Even this was ultimately abandoned. The lock on the Songo River fared a little better but this was finally acquired by the water power interests on the Presumpscot. The dam at the Basin or head of the Canal and a portion of the ditch from the dam down is still in use for water power purposes. But the balance of its fairway and tow-path is being rapidly obliterated until its course will, at no distant day, be almost unknown and forgotten.

Thus came to a close, what was for its time, a great public enterprise. Viewed from a large standpoint, it was by no means a failure. If it failed to earn dividends and was a loss to its promoters and investors, it certainly was a prime factor in hastening the development of the Sebago Lake Basin and the country it served. It advanced the interests of Portland and Western Maine. Canals have been supplanted by railroads, just as horse-teaming has given way to motor trucking, so its end was, in the nature of things, inevitable. Its history, however, is interesting and well worth preserving.

ELECTRIC STREET RAILROAD: The Portland and Forest Avenue Railroad Company in Portland operated horse cars on some of the streets many years ago. For some years it operated in three divisions; Spring Street line extending to the Grand Trunk Railway Station, the Congress Street line through Congress and Middle Streets, and the Deering line from Portland to Morrill's Corner. These lines were later united into one corporation called the Portland Railroad Company. The first electric cars in Portland appeared on the Deering line on July 2, 1891, and ran from Monument Square to Morrill's Corner. The Westbrook line was the next to be built and was opened for travel on June 28, 1892.

Mr. Fred Spring, of Westbrook, who had been a conductor on the horsecars in Portland, was given a position as a Supervisor of Construction while the Westbrook line was

under construction. He was made Superintendent when the line was completed, a position he held for many years with great credit to himself and the Railroad Company. This line proved to be one of the most profitable the Company operated, and was a great convenience to the citizens of Westbrook. The fare from Westbrook to Woodfords was five cents with an additional five cents to Portland.

Many of the older citizens will remember boarding a streetcar in Westbrook and riding to beautiful Riverton Park and enjoying a fine entertainment, all for ten cents. The Riverton Car left Westbrook at two and seven o'clock P.M. On Saturday evenings and on holidays it was often necessary to run several extra cars to accommodate those who wished to enjoy a fine show or one of Dan Smith's fine shore dinners at the Casino.

The early cars were equipped with two twenty-five horse power motors, hand brakes, no fenders or vestibule. Old horsecars were used for trailers. These trailers had a small upright coal stove on one side of the aisle of the closed trailers. A trailer brakeman was employed to help stop the train when passengers wished to get off, to announce the streets and ring the signal bell to the motorman, while the conductor of the train collected all fares and checked all railroad crossings.

Larger motored cars were put into service in 1901 and these cars were equipped with four forty-five horsepower motors. By 1903 still larger cars were purchased equipped with four sixty-five horsepower motors and air brakes. A short time later, eight large trailer cars forty-four feet three inches long were put into service. The motorcars and trailers, with semi-automatic air brakes, could then safely carry over one hundred passengers at one time.

In 1900 there were electric street railroads operating in most of the large cities of New England and many towns in Maine were connected with each other by a network of street railroads. In 1904 there were eighteen street railroads in operation within the State of Maine, one of which, was a horse railroad operating in the summertime in Fryeburg.



Open Trolley
Trailer Trolley



First Locomotive Used In Westbrook, About 1882



John Wheeler's Windmill And Coal Office
Corner Of Main And Haskell Streets

By changing cars several times, it was possible at one time, to ride on electric cars from Westbrook to Boston, Massachusetts.

Westbrook boasted of having one of the first electric locomotives in the State. It was a small affair, equipped with two six horsepower motors and put into service around 1882. It hauled one freight car from the Westbrook Railway Station, through Mechanic Street across Main Street, crossing the Presumpscot River over a bridge, to the Westbrook Manufacturing Company's mills on Bridge Street.

The Westbrook, Windham and Naples Railroad Company opened a line from Westbrook to South Windham about 1899, and operated a passenger and freight service between South Windham and Westbrook but the line was never extended beyond South Windham. The Portland Railroad Company purchased this line in the early 1900's providing through service to Portland. In 1901 the Portland Railroad Company extended its line from Mosher's Corner to Gorham, providing service to Westbrook and Portland. In 1912 the Portland Railroad Company leased its property to the Central Maine Power Company for ninety-nine years.

The most pretentious electric railroad to be constructed in Maine, was the Lewiston-Portland Interurban Railroad, which was opened for travel on July 2, 1914, with both passenger and freight service between Lewiston, New Gloucester, Gray, Falmouth and Portland. This line continued in service for nineteen years, being discontinued June 28, 1933.

The Westbrook Car Barn was closed in 1931, and Westbrook cars were housed in the Deering Division Barn. In 1933 the Deering Barn was closed and Westbrook cars were then housed in the St. John Street Barn in Portland. In 1939, some of the trolley cars were replaced by gas driven buses, but Westbrook trolleys were not replaced until April 20, 1941. The buses are now (1951) operated by the Portland Coach Company.

The electric street railways were not only a convenient means of transportation, and for many years returned sub-

stantial dividends to investors, but also served to stimulate the building of suburban homes, where building sites were more plentiful and less expensive. Buses are more flexible in traffic than trolley cars were and are able to provide service to areas previously without transportation.

TELEPHONE: Until June 1875 there were no telephones, there was only the idea of the telephone in the mind of young Alexander Graham Bell who, on March 7, 1876, was granted a patent for his invention. Maine's first telephone exchange opened for business in Portland on September 1, 1879. According to the New England Telephone & Telegraph Company there are several blank spaces in the chronological data concerning early telephone activities in Westbrook. Their records indicate that there was a telephone service in Westbrook as early as 1899 furnishing service to 162 customers, but it would seem that the service must have come through the Portland Exchange. It is known that as early as 1885 or 1886 there was a public telephone at Charles Woodman's Drug Store near Main and Bridge Streets which had a direct line to Portland. This telephone was checked each morning when the operator called from Portland.

The Dana Warp Mills and the S. D. Warren Company were also among the first in Westbrook to have telephones installed. There were, too, private lines connecting the manufacturing plants with the homes of the owners but these were not operated through an exchange. It was in 1883 when Mr. Longley, the S. D. Warren Company Mill agent, was ill at his home, "The Elms" that a private line was strung from there to the new Cumberland Hall by Erwin Newcomb so Mr. Longley could listen to the programs. Information about Westbrook's first Telephone Exchange was supplied by Miss Alice Genest who was the first operator.

About 1902 the Cumberland Telephone Company was organized by a group of Westbrook citizens: Russell D. Woodman, John C. Scates, Lemuel Lane, Thurston S. Burns, William Lyons and Charles N. Waterhouse, with Charles

Adams, general manager of the Portland Exchange, acting president. As has been mentioned, the New England Telephone & Telegraph Company also had several telephones installed in Westbrook previous to the organization of the Cumberland Telephone Company.

Miss Genest, who had finished a course in a Portland business college and had a position with S. D. Warren Company at Cumberland Mills, was approached by Mr. Lane and told that the Cumberland Telephone Company was about to open an Office and Exchange in Westbrook. He had recommended her for the position of operator as they needed a girl who could speak French as well as English and conduct the business of the office in a capable manner. Miss Genest conferred with Mr. Charles Adams, Manager of the New England Telephone & Telegraph Company in Portland, who described the duties of the new work and she accepted the position. Instruction in the operation of the switchboard was given at the Portland Exchange, and when the Westbrook Exchange was opened in 1903, she became its first operator. The hours were from seven A.M. to seven P.M. and Mr. Gordon MacLean worked from seven P.M. to seven A.M.

The first Exchange was located on the second floor of the Cutter-Benoit block on Main Street, over the present Nutter's Department Store. The Exchange continued in operation at this location until May 1, 1907 when the company removed its equipment and office to rooms on the second floor of the Edwards block at the corner of Main and Bridge Streets.

An amusing incident, probably frightening at the time, occurred while the Exchange was located in the Edwards block. It had been the custom for some time for owners of cattle to drive cows along Main Street, passing the Edwards block. One day the cows became frightened at something in the street which created a miniature stampede. Two of the cows, seeing an open doorway in the Edwards block, dashed through, climbed the stairs and ended their wild escapade in the very heart of the telephone exchange. It is obvious

that this most unusual intrusion created great confusion in the office and presented a real problem for the several men who were entrusted with the task of returning the truant animals to the street without injury. After arming themselves with planks, ropes and tackle, the owner, reinforced by a large number of excited citizens and an abundance of persuasion, safely landed the cows on terra firma again to the great relief of all concerned.

The New England Telephone & Telegraph Company bought the Cumberland Telephone Company in 1910. The office remained in the Edwards block until 1917 when the present building at 820 Main Street was leased. Two telephones in Westbrook, that of the S. D. Warren Company and the one at St. Hyacinthe's Rectory, still retain the original numbers assigned when the exchange was opened.

The Westbrook Exchange today (1951) serves more than 2700 telephones, and gives employment to thirty-two people. The old magneto hand crank telephone, requiring a subscriber to turn a small crank on the telephone when wishing to reach the operator, and which was in general use for nearly twenty years, was replaced in 1919 with the so-called common battery lift type telephone. This type is still in general use in Westbrook. In many cities and towns today the dial system telephone has replaced the common battery lift type system but this modernized dial system has not as yet been incorporated into Westbrook's telephone system.

TELEGRAPH: There is no record available to show that the Western Union Telegraph Company ever maintained an office in Westbrook. A Westbrook citizen, who was employed by the company some thirty years ago, states that in the early 1900's the telegraph company had a working agreement with the Maine Central Railway Company whereby a person could send and receive messages from the Railway office at Cumberland Mills or from the Westbrook Railway station. At one time messages intended for Westbrook people were sent to the New England Telephone office in Westbrook where a boy was hired to deliver the messages.

CHAPTER 6

INDUSTRIAL PROGRESS

THROUGHOUT the history of Westbrook's development the water power furnished by the Presumpscot River has been one of the most important factors in the growth of the city. From the days of the early settlers with their saw mills and grist mills to the present with its large industries this river has provided an unending source of power and water supply for the mills built along its banks.

The Presumpscot River is twenty-two miles in length from Sebago Lake to tide water with a drop of 270.13 feet from the crest of the dam at the outlet of the lake to mean low tide. Of that 270 foot drop to the sea, 236 feet are utilized at eight power stations by various manufacturers in the production of useful power through artificial control throughout its entire length.

From estimates furnished by Mr. Everett P. Ingalls, manager of S. D. Warren Company's mill at Cumberland Mills, the average yearly volume of water discharged by this river is 20.4 billion cubic feet. This figure may be translated into an average flow rate of 39,000 cubic feet per minute, of which 37,000 cubic feet per minute is utilized by the above mentioned mill in the manufacture of pulp and paper.

The natural uniformity of flow, percentage of control, and capacity for hydraulic power purposes affords greater manufacturing facilities than to be found in any other part of Cumberland County, and is unusual in a river so short in length.

THE WESTBROOK MANUFACTURING COMPANY: This first large industry was the outgrowth of the Portland Manufacturing Company which was formed in 1829 by a group of Portland men, who saw an opportunity to establish a paying business, using the water power of Saccarappa Falls on the Presumpscot River. The first mill was built in the early 1830's and was used to make duck, a heavy cotton cloth or canvas, used for sails, tents, and other purposes that required a strong, sturdy material. A sail twine

for sewing the duck together was also manufactured. There was a very ready market for this duck, for this was in the days of sailing vessels out of Portland Harbor.

Every kind of a craft carried sail, from the small fishing dory with one, up to the majestic square rigger with its full set of forty-five sails of different sizes. The duck was made in several widths and in light and heavy weights for the different kinds of sails, from the small, light ones to those that were large and heavy, according to their places on the masts of the ship. This market continued for many years and contributed greatly to the long continued prosperity of the business. Many thousands of yards were carried through the Saccarappa mud and over the road to Portland to the sail lofts, first by ox team and in later years by a five horse team, two pair and a leader. The first agent of the Company was Henry Smith and the second George Codman of Portland.

Probably, about the year 1858 the Company was reorganized and became The Westbrook Manufacturing Company, and in that same year, James Haskell of Rockport, Massachusetts, an agent of a mill in that town, was called to Saccarappa to assume a similar position in the Westbrook mills. He, with his wife and two sons, Frank and Edwin, and three daughters, lived in the mill agent's house at the corner of Bridge and Brown Streets. He was a member of the widespread New England family of Haskells, sometimes spelled "Hascal", all descended from Roger Haskell, one of three brothers who came to Massachusetts about 1660 from England. Their father, William Haskell, owned a manor on the Isle of Man and was one of the regicides of King Charles the First in 1649.

During the Civil War a tremendous amount of business was done with the United States Government, in the sale of duck for tents for the Union Armies. These were busy, prosperous years for the Company and a very large profit was realized. In 1868 Mill No. 2 of four stories was built. This was topped by a belfry containing the mill bell. Drilling for overalls and other purposes was manufactured here. Be-

tween Mills No. 1 and No. 2 there was a dye house, which did outside work as well as the mill dyeing. They used the old indigo dye here for the blue drilling.

In the early days there were only a few machines and sometimes the work day began at 5:30 A.M. and lasted until 7 or 7:30 P.M. with time out for meals, in order to get the work done. Later the hours were from 6 A.M. to 6 P.M. with an hour out at noon, and an 11 A.M. closing on Saturday. This was the sixty hour work week.

Among the workers were some of the French Canadians, who came, a few at a time, mostly from the neighboring Province of Quebec, to the New England mill towns, attracted by the good wages. In the early years, they lived in a little community of their own in the Brown Street section. More of their friends and relatives continued to come from Canada, and in the late 1870's they were able to build their own church. At that time Mr. Frank Haskell took part in the laying of the corner stone of the first St. Hyacinthe Church. There were many good musicians among them and they organized the Salaberry Band, which later became the Westbrook City Band. They were a hard-working, industrious people and, with their gaiety and enjoyment of life, became fine citizens, taking great pride in their homes and families.

In 1874, on account of advancing age, James Haskell resigned his position and his son Frank, already employed by the Company as a clerk in the office, was elected to succeed him. He had been educated in the Rockport and Westbrook schools and Bryant and Stratton's Business College in Portland. He was active in city affairs and was alderman in 1894 and '95.

In 1881 the Company made extensive repairs to their mills and built a new one, mill No. 3 for the manufacture of gingham. This was right beside Bridge Street and is now a part of Dana Warp Mills. At the end of the mill where the dye-house now stands, a garden with a fountain, urns, flower beds, shrubs and bushes was kept, and extended in a strip across the front of the mill. The flowers grew in great pro-

fusion, and Mr. Haskell would give bouquets of them to passers-by. At the end of the dam near the bank of the river, below the garden, was the fishway mentioned in a previous chapter. It consisted of a series of steps filled with rocks and surrounded by a wooden framework and continued up the river over the upper dam. The water ran down through all the time, and the fish would zigzag up in short dashes from one step to another, until it reached the top of the Falls, and could continue its long swim to Sebago Lake.

The first machinery for this mill came from Scotland and forty-two expert weavers came from that country to run them. They were secured through an employment agent. For several years they were followed by others from that country in small and larger groups. They occupied houses which had been built for them on a rise ground nearby which has ever since been known as Scotch Hill. These were on three sides of a square, which was used for a playground and ball field, and still is. A soccer, a kind of football, team was formed, and played with teams from the crews of the English steam-boats when they came to Portland Harbor.

Among the Scots there was a piper. It was a novel sight to the people of Westbrook to see the big, brawny Highlander in the full regalia of his kilt, plaid, bonnet, sporran and all the rest, marching back and forth; and the music of his bagpipe with its incessant bass drone, and its pentatonic or five tone scale, as he played the stirring war marches, the lively jigs and reels, the pibrochs and weird and doleful laments of his native land was indeed strange to their ears. They organized a band called the Caledonia Flute band, all wood wind instruments, which played for all the parades in the town. They also played at the gatherings of their people on Scotch Hill, when all the lovely old ballads from "Bonnie Scotland" were sung, and many other old Scottish songs, some of a more or less boisterous nature.

There were some good dancers among them who danced the Highland Fling and other dances. It has been told that in his younger days, the famous Scotch singer, Harry Lauder, would come to Westbrook, when in this part of the

country, to see his friends. On one visit, he sang a song or two for them, in the square on Main Street and drew quite a crowd. These people were a valuable addition to the town and became fine citizens.

The sixty hour work week still continued. There were no child labor laws in those days, and boys and girls as young as ten years of age, worked in the spinning room picking up the bobbins of yarn and throwing them in boxes. Some of the men received only a dollar or a dollar and a quarter a day, but a dollar then was worth several of today's. Frank Haskell continued as agent and was also made treasurer, and had full charge of the sale of the products. Until the hard times of 1893 he was able to keep from six hundred to eight hundred hands employed and the mills running continuously with a monthly twenty thousand dollar pay roll.

The flood on the Presumpscot River in early March of 1896 ruined thirteen hundred cases of gingham, which were water soaked, and caused a loss of five thousand dollars. These fine ginghams were sold at the old J. R. Libby store in Portland, at a very low price, at a so-called "Frozen Gingham Sale". Also, it destroyed a bridge across the river which was used for taking the railroad freight cars to the mill on a spur track from the Portland, Rochester station. These were hauled by the first electrically driven car in Westbrook. This consisted of a trolley-car and trailer, driven by two six horse power motors of two hundred twenty volts each. After the water receded, some of the men worked eighteen hours a day drying out the cotton in various stages of its manufacture. Toward the end of the week they literally fell asleep on the job.

In 1896, owing to unsettled market conditions, especially in the gingham market, the directors decided to close the mills for five weeks, from late July to early September. During the shut-down they had planned to make repairs and alterations, which could be done more cheaply with the mills closed. Many of the employees had worked steadily for over thirty years without a vacation of any kind. But

during the first week, Mr. Haskell, taking a few days vacation at Sebago Lake with his family, died very suddenly at the age of fifty-two. He had overworked for several years, in his efforts to keep the mills going through the hard times and had undermined his health. This was a great blow to the industry and the town.

Mr. Haskell had made well laid plans for reopening, and had interested outside capital in investing in the business. It seemed to be a case of a man being indispensable, as no one was found to take his place. The directors never reopened the mills. Undoubtedly if he had lived, the business would again have resumed its normal activity and continued for many years to benefit the community.

S. D. WARREN COMPANY: The history of many a community has been molded by the work of some individual: by his brains, his capacity for labor, his ambitions, and his character; by the opportunity which our system of free enterprise guarantees to everyone, and by the rewards that this opportunity, successfully grasped, may bring. Among these great pioneers of industry have been men like Edison, Ford, Westinghouse, Eastman, Hoe, Mergenthaler—the list is long of Americans who have started with an idea, and through genius and hard work have created an industry.

Here in Maine the city of Westbrook has provided prime illustrations of success in the life and labor of some of its citizens. One of them was Samuel Dennis Warren, founder of S. D. Warren Company. This company is known internationally as one of the great manufacturers of fine printing paper, an industry of which not only Westbrook, but Maine, New England and the Country are proud.

The founder himself was not a Maine man by birth. He was born on a farm in Grafton, Massachusetts, September 13, 1817. In that year, Madison was President and the War of 1812 had ended barely two years before. It was a war of great importance to New England, from which it was learned that its great field of enterprise lay not on the sea but in manufacturing. New England seized the great oppor-

tunity, which the interruption of commerce with Britain had brought, to develop various forms of industry. It was at this time that Dennis Warren, as his nine brothers and sisters called him, began his education, first at a Quaker school in Groton, and later at an academy in Amherst. Says a biographer:

“A student’s life, however, did not seem to agree with his health; and so it came about that he entered the store of Grant and Daniell of Boston, paper-dealers, when he was just fifteen years of age. For six years he patiently toiled at whatever came to his hand, and at the age of twenty-one was admitted to the firm as junior partner, the name of the firm being changed to Grant Daniell & Company. He must have proved himself of rare value to have been admitted to the firm without capital and solely on his personal worth at so early an age.”

On his thirtieth birthday, Mr. Warren was married to Susan C. Clarke, daughter of a Boston Congregational minister. In 1851, and again in 1853, he visited Europe “for the purpose of perfecting arrangements for the importation of foreign rags, a business in which he was the pioneer and his firm the leading one.” In 1853, the firm began the manufacture of paper in a leased mill in Pepperell, Massachusetts, having previously handled the product of other mills; and in 1854 Mr. Warren bought, with Otis Daniell, his partner, the Cumberland Mills, or, as it is now known, S. D. Warren Company. The next year he bought out the interest of one partner in the Boston firm, the name of which became Grant, Warren and Company. This firm continued until 1867 when, after a reorganization in which the other partners withdrew, Mr. Warren carried on the business under his own name. The name Cumberland Mills remained official until 1918 when the plant was incorporated as S. D. Warren Company.

As to the way in which Mr. Warren carried on his Westbrook business, the record is eloquent. He was a friendly man to whom people came when in trouble. He resided all his life in Boston where the firm’s offices were, but when he visited the plant at Cumberland Mills he took as much pleasure in greeting old familiar faces amongst employes as did the employes in greeting him. He was interested in their

welfare and in the town which came to be known as Cumberland Mills.

He prospered, but money to him was not a chief end in itself. He used it for the benefit of others. When the growing town needed a new schoolhouse, he urged building it for the future, and himself contributed generously though as a non-resident his children could not profit from it. When proposals for a new church were made, he offered \$5,000 on condition that the people raise a like amount; and, in addition, he offered to buy a lot of their selection and to present it to the new church. The name, "Warren", is written large in Westbrook today; not only in the Warren Block, the Warren School and the Warren Church, but the Warren Playground, the Warren Swimming Pool and the Warren Library. It was thus to be felt that Mr. Warren's personal life and his business were based on Christian character.

When he died, in May, 1888, the whole town of Westbrook expressed its grief in a public meeting held at the hour of the funeral in Boston, and his employes sent to the funeral the finest floral piece that could be procured. At the exercises, an orator said:

"Look about you for evidence of (Mr. Warren's) great financial ability. The vast mills, with their thousand and one mechanical appliances used in the fabrication of their product; the hundred tenements for the use of his employes, all the work of his hands. The church, the halls, the library, his great charities in many directions, place him in the front rank of those who love their fellow-men. He regarded each one of his employes as a personal friend, and not as so much bone and brawn to be minted into wealth for his personal aggrandizement."

At a later special town meeting it was unanimously resolved: "That it is with profound sorrow that the citizens of the town of Westbrook have heard of the death of Mr. Samuel D. Warren. Not alone the model village that has grown up and prospered, under his fostering care, upon the banks of the noble river that flows through the greenest of our valleys, but the whole town, has cause to mourn his loss as that of a personal friend and benefactor." That "noble

river", of course, was the Presumpscot which, from early times, had been recognized as a source of power, and had attracted industries of various kinds to its banks.

Another of the speakers at the Warren funeral exercises drew a picture of the early days along the Presumpscot:

"By tradition", he said, "we are told that the location with its excellent privileges, was called by the Indians 'Congin', or 'Ammoncongin', for many years before there were any signs of the village that should in after years spring into existence. A dam was early thrown across the stream, and mills were built to manufacture into lumber the sturdy growth which covered the now fertile farms that line this beautiful river and its parent lake, Sebago, a name also given by the Indians; but we can learn of neither bridge nor roadway here until a quite recent date, save the road necessary for the removal of the lumber; and even these improvements temporary in their nature, had nearly passed away when in 1843 the river, as if in mockery of man's insignificance, swept every trace of them away, and ran its course untrammelled to the sea. Later on, improvements were made; a dam was built, a saw-mill erected and a bridge constructed. The road now known as Cumberland Street was laid out and built rather for the accommodation of country travel than for a local improvement. Still, a paper-mill was erected — a little, low, wooden structure, totally unlike anything now occupying the site. After an existence of only a few years and making only a small quantity of paper, the company gave up the business, and soon after the property came into the possession of the late owner."

Apart from tradition, history as nearly authentic as may be has it that Major Archelaus Lewis of Stroudwater bought a large tract of land on the north side of Ammoncongin Falls running to the center of the river. This gave him ownership of one-half of the water power. Otherwise his property was undeveloped.

In 1842, Josiah F. Day and Reuben E. Lyons bought of the Lewis heirs all their water power and enough land for erection of a paper-mill. This was the property purchased in 1854 by Otis Daniell and Samuel D. Warren, partners in the firm of Grant, Daniell & Company, successful dealers in paper and paper-mill supplies. The price paid was \$28,000. Thus the partners acquired buildings and equipment for producing paper pulp from rags, old bags and jute butts. Their production was 3,000 lbs. of paper per day. The equipment was relatively simple and limited, two Four-

drinier machines of 62 and 68 inches, respectively, and a 36 inch single cylinder machine. Yet it was ample to permit some diversification of product, which consisted principally of newsprint made from bleached cotton and linen rags, but also included brown and manila wrapping paper. The machines, experienced paper men say, probably were operated at a very moderate pace when the plant was taken over by its new owner, but were soon stepped up. After the addition of a new 68 inch machine in 1863, production reached 14,000 lbs. per day, at a rate of about 100 feet per minute, nearly five times the output of 1854. In those days, all paper was machine-finished and cut into sheets with a cutter placed at the end of the machine, and tended by cutter girls working 12-hour shifts "around the clock" who sorted the product as fast as made.

Originally the mill generated its own illuminating gas from coal. Later came kerosene lamps, but it was not until sometime in the 1880's that electric arc lamps came in, with installation of incandescent lamps in the Gay Nineties. All this was part of the progress made under the new owner. From what crude beginnings this progress sprang may be seen in the recollections of C. W. Mace, who, as a boy, moved to Cumberland Mills in June of 1852 when his father took charge of the first little paper-mill, two years before it came into the ownership of Mr. Warren. Mr. Mace wrote:

"There were no brick structures as now; only two or three small wooden buildings were necessary for the business. Although small, the mill was considered a first-class one. Its product had its principal market in Boston, for the finer, and Portland and the surrounding towns for the coarser, grades. All of the rags, coal and other supplies were hauled by a four-horse team, making daily trips to Portland for the purpose. The village, known as Congin, consisted of nine houses and a store on the easterly side of the river, and five houses on the westerly side."

A further illustration of the really primitive conditions, which the founder of the present great modern industry had to meet, is the fact that available water power had been the only real asset recognized in selecting the site for the mill; but even process water could not be taken from the river,

contaminated as it was with bark and sawdust from the saw-mills at Saccarappa. All springs within easy reach had been requisitioned, however, and one of the first moves of the new owner was the laying of a two-mile conduit to a larger spring which still furnishes the mill with drinking water. When this early supply became insufficient, the large reservoir on Warren Avenue, now removed, was built in 1871 as a settling basin for river water; but not until sand filters were installed in 1884 was an adequate supply of clean water available.

It is interesting and revelatory of Mr. Warren's character and of his way of doing business to read the testimony of the man who laid the conduit:

"It was, I think, about the year 1858 that they engaged me to superintend the laying of an aqueduct of logs for supplying the mill with spring water. The spring being more than a mile away made it necessary to lay the pipe across several farms owned by various individuals. These people, of course, had rights that should be respected, but the fact that Mr. Warren had every claim, however exorbitant, satisfactorily adjusted, convinced me that he could and did see both sides of the question, and by his manly and generous dealing disarmed all opposition. Thus early in his career at Cumberland Mills did he establish himself in the hearts of the people as a man worthy of all honor, as his subsequent acts and dealings most fully demonstrated."

In those early days, raw materials came from distant points, and there was little local market demand for the product. A railroad from Portland to Gorham was operated in 1848, but that four-horse team, already mentioned, continued to handle most of the incoming and outgoing material for some time after Mr. Warren took over the mill. Gradually, production expanded until the Civil War, with its high prices for everything, firmly established the business and prepared it to ride through the depression which followed.

However, the War and its aftermath brought increased competition in the paper business, and stimulated a search for cheaper processes and materials. Several developments of importance to Cumberland Mills resulted. Mechanical fiber, made by disintegrating spruce wood on a grindstone, was found suitable for newsprint, but its manufacture required the proximity of spruce forests and ample water

power. Since the requisite spruce forests did not exist in proximity to Cumberland Mills, newsprint ceased to be a logical product for them. By this time, methods had been perfected for producing bleachable pulp from other woods by cooking them with chemicals.

In the 1870's the making of soda pulp had been started, and by 1880 a pulp mill of fair size was in operation at the plant. The wood used was poplar from the Presumpscot River water shed. This could be driven down the river. The pulp from it, though it signalled the passing of rag pulp in the manufacture of book paper, was used sparingly at the start, and rags continued to be worked in large quantities for many years by the Warren Company. The big storehouse on Cumberland Street had been built in 1882 for the storage of rags which came into Portland as full cargoes of sailing vessels from Egypt, India, Japan and Germany up to the closing years of the century.

In 1904, the supply of river-driven poplar wood was exhausted. Long before this, the supply was being supplemented by stock which came in by rail from other areas in the State and from Canada. Poplar is an ideal pulpwood, though before this fact was discovered, it was considered a forest "weed". Consequently, woodlot owners were greatly benefited by the paper-mills' demand. The fact that poplar does not reproduce well, plus ever higher transportation costs, encouraged trial of other deciduous trees, and it was found that with more elaborate bleaching processes an entirely satisfactory pulp was obtainable. The result is that, today, any deciduous species of wood is acceptable. Thus the radius of the area within which an adequate supply of wood is obtainable has been shortened, a matter of great advantage to the company.

Now one-half of S. D. Warren Company wood is delivered by truck from territory within fifty miles of Westbrook; the rest is car wood shipped over distances of not more than about one hundred miles. Changes in processing have been made that help both the mill and the farmer. Up to a few years ago, pulpwood was cut during the month

of June when the bark would peel. This called for concentrated labor at an inconvenient season. Now the logs are shipped in their natural state, and the bark is removed by attrition in a revolving drum. This improvement has made logging a year-round operation.

The soda fiber made from deciduous trees gives a short, soft pulp of excellent quality for book paper, but it lacks strength, and is used in admixture with longer fibers such as those from cotton rags. Coniferous woods, when made into pulp by chemical means yield a long fiber similar to that of rags. The sulphite process for producing this coniferous fiber had been perfected during the 1880's and 1890's. Although its manufacture at Cumberland Mills was not undertaken until 1918, its use had been commenced by 1880, and from then on in increasing proportions to replace rags. A sulphite mill to produce long-fiber pulp was built by S. D. Warren Company in 1918 because domestic production and imports could not supply demand. This unit was operated for about twelve years and then abandoned, as the pulp could be purchased for less than it cost the Warren Company to produce it.

More recently it has become possible, through the admirable research facilities of the company and its highly skilled personnel, to bleach alkaline-cooked coniferous woods, formerly used only for kraft wrappers; and, for Warren papers, this pulp is markedly superior to sulphite. Of great importance is the further fact that this process is adaptable to pine and the sulphite process it not. This allows for extensive enlargement of pulp facilities, now under way, and to utilization of the important crop of local pine. As pine reproduces abundantly, and as Westbrook and the Presumpscot Valley are in one of the once-famed great areas of pine forest, S. D. Warren Company may look forward with confidence to an unfailing supply of wood.

Through developments unforeseen even by the astute Mr. Warren himself, the site, where, a hundred years ago, water power alone outweighed other adverse factors, has become sufficiently attractive to encourage the continuous develop-

ment which the Company's history records. This development, though not to be set down in detail since much of it is of a technical nature understood only by the scientist, has been orderly and progressive. From the 3,000 lbs. of paper produced in 1854 when Mr. Warren took over the plant, the output had grown to 35,000 lbs. by 1880. A considerable part of this almost 12-fold increase in production is attributable, as previously noted, to the impetus given manufacturing by the Civil War.

During the first quarter century of the Warren mill, important changes in the plant had been made, that kept pace with the industry and even marched ahead of it, changes that made increase in production possible. Immediately upon purchase of the property, improvements in the buildings were begun. By 1880 these improvements had created a substantial mill of all-brick buildings, with their machinery relocated on sound foundations. Besides, surrounding land and full water power rights had been acquired. Hence the way was open for capitalization upon a development within the industry of a process, started in a small way in the previous decade. This was the application of a coating of pigment and adhesive to the paper surface.

At first, the object was to produce a deep-colored and glazed paper for the wrapping of soap. Then, someone in the organization conceived the idea that the smoothed surface, with a white pigment, would be ideal for printing illustrations. In cooperation with the leading illustrated magazine publishers of that day an eminently satisfactory new grade was established. Coated paper became and has continued to be a major line of production. Fortunately, the production of coated paper coincided with the advent of the half-tone printing plate made from a photographic negative to replace the costly hand-engraved woodcut. Publishers and advertisers promptly capitalized on the popular pull of illustrations, and the day of periodicals was on.

For a long time the Warren mill had to grow to keep pace with the growth of magazines. By 1889, output was

forty tons per day. The addition of two more machines boosted output, in 1895, to fifty tons daily, this in spite of the fact that an extensive re-arrangement of the mill layout was under way. Six machines, partly new and partly re-vamped, were placed in the new machine room built across the river bed. Coating, calendering and finishing operations were concentrated in new buildings on the south side of the Presumpscot, and in 1897 only nine machines were making fifty-five tons of paper daily. By 1900, these machines were making sixty-one tons per day, and with the modernization of equipment, the production had jumped, in 1951, to four hundred ten tons per day. This increased output has required extensive enlargements and improvements in the service departments, also, such as steam generation, pulp mill, coating, finishing and shipping.

As a sidelight upon business practice and procedure in the Victorian era, it could be noted that communication with the administrative and sales offices in Boston depended upon a daily exchange of letters written long-hand, with one copy preserved by impressment upon a damp sheet in the copy book. For emergency calls, as when the plant's only serious fire occurred, the need of a telegraph instrument was recognized and eventually was made available. This was replaced, in 1889, by a long-distance telephone. But it was not until 1892 that a girl was tolerated in the office, to operate the first typewriter.

Such was the growth and progress of the Cumberland Mills from the time its distinguished founder came to Westbrook down to the present. He had vision, as his life story attests, but even he could hardly have envisioned the present plant with its three thousand men and women employes, its payments in 1951 for wages, salaries, Social Security, State Unemployment tax, Workmen's Compensation, Cumberland Mills Relief Association and pensions of \$11,250,000 and a Federal income tax of \$5,000,000. The mills in 1951 paid 42 per cent of the total tax levy of the city of Westbrook. To make its 136,000 tons of paper in 1951 it used 90,000 tons of coal; required 13,866 freight cars to bring in

materials and to ship out product; used for power and for paper-making 24,000,000 (or 8 billion per year) gallons of water per day; consumed 1,360,000,000 kilowatt-hours of electric power; bought and used 100,000 cords of pulpwood from Maine growers.

This is the measurable side of this great Westbrook industry. What is not so easily measurable is the skill of the workers. The Company itself pays tribute to this human factor. An official publication, after rehearsing the operations that produce the Warren papers, says:

"In all these operations there is no substitute for skill, the skill of the trained and experienced operator . . . At every stage, the skills and experience of the conscientious people of Cumberland Mills are the priceless ingredients in Warren's Standard Printing Papers. The machinists, carpenters and others who build our equipment and keep it running; the many men who work to supply power and raw materials for this equipment; the chemists and engineers who develop the new methods and products which keep us ahead of the pack—all draw heavily on their craftsmanship to accomplish each daily task. For these reasons S. D. Warren Company is proud of its people. For these reasons we recognize and gladly accept our very real obligation to them."

Particularly should this tribute be paid to the Company's research technicians, chemists, physicists and engineers, through whose work the Company maintains its place among the leaders of the paper-making industry. The management was one of the first to recognize the necessity for laboratory skill, and as early as 1895 was carrying on research.

"Even earlier than 1895 some of the pioneer work in the development of coating and calendering paper for better printing was carried out; and because of this work, the first coated paper for commercial printing was made in Cumberland Mills in 1881. This was for the Century Magazine and for years this coated paper was known as 'The Century'. The first dull-coated was the result of Warren research and manufacturing skill. 'Cameo' was for a long time the only such paper on the market and was the standard for still longer. In the present laboratory we have what is conceded to be one of the finest research organizations in the industry . . . The research laboratory is in a position to explore any field which is necessary to the production of paper. From this exploration comes a steady stream of improvements and developments which help us greatly in setting the pace for the paper industry."

That Warren does set the pace is to be seen in the fact that paper merchants sell the Warren product in 114 United States cities and towns and in more than 30 foreign countries including such far away places as Burma, Iceland and the Belgian Congo. The list of business organizations that use Warren papers for advertising comprises virtually all the "blue-chip" enterprises of the Country, railroads, air lines, telephones, drugs, steel, automobiles, insurance, chemicals, even universities. It would be difficult to think of a publishing house which does not use Warren book papers; the Yale, Harvard, Princeton and Oxford University Presses; the American Book Company, Scribner's, Macmillan, Thomas Nelson & Sons, G. & C. Merriam Co., publishers of the authentic Webster's Dictionaries, to name but a few. Such almost universal acceptance of Warren papers, such Country-wide and almost world-wide adoption of them, can but be taken as acknowledgment of their superlative quality; of the Company's world leadership in the making of paper for fine advertising leaflets, for brochures, magazines, books, whether school, dictionaries or Bibles, leadership which S. D. Warren Company has built up through its first century.

During the more recent years of its history, the Company has lent its influence and spent money to establish employee organizations that illustrate and cement the cordial relations that exist in the plant and in the city. There is the Fifty Year Club, made up principally of men, each of whom has been a Warren employee for more than fifty years. Their total service, 1976 years, divided by the approximate number of members, declares an average of almost fifty-six years of continuous employment for each. There is the S. D. Warren Band, organized in 1936, which has given many concerts and participated in parades in Westbrook and in surrounding towns to the great satisfaction of players and audiences. There are the Warren Men's Singing Club and the Women's Glee Club, both of which, under capable direction, have attained a high standard of excellence and given pleasure to many people. And there are the Warren Mill

Bowling League and the Warren Softball Team, both contributing to plant solidarity, plant health and plant reputation.

By wholehearted support of these organizations, management has contributed notably to the civic life of Westbrook. It largely maintains the City's Community Association and the Memorial Swimming Pool, which has been used by more than 1,200 people of all ages in a single day, and in which, in a single Summer, more than 100 children have been taught to swim.

Thus it must appear to the most casual reader that the name "Warren" looms large in the industrial city of Westbrook, and is held in the high repute it deserves. There is an old, much-quoted saying "There is no substitute for quality". The Cumberland Mills have never sought a substitute, but have always provided quality, continuing to work and to exemplify the high ideals and integrity of the founder in all the relations of business life, and in the human relations between employer and employe.

Through a century of progress the Mills have fairly won their high distinction and maintained their standard of excellence in the product which carries the name all over the country and abroad.

KNOWLTON MACHINE COMPANY: In 1864, Mr. John J. Knowlton and his brother Daniel established a small machine shop in Saccarappa, Maine (now Westbrook) and called the business "Knowlton Brothers". A brother-in-law, Maurice Hodgkins, was also interested.

J. J. Knowlton had been a seafaring man and also a general mechanic, and had been born and brought up in Annisquam (Gloucester), Massachusetts. He and his brother came to Saccarappa at the request of Mr. James Haskell, who also hailed from Cape Ann, to take charge of the repairs in the cotton mill of which Mr. Haskell was agent.

The little shop they founded prospered and, about 1873, a two story brick building was built further up on the bank



S. D. Warren Mills Of Today



Cumberland And Presumpscot Mills In 1870



The Dana Warp Mills Of Today



The Dana Warp Mills In 1866

of the Presumpscot River. The motive power was provided by a water wheel from the lower dam.

In 1888, J. J. Knowlton bought out his partners, and, with his son John D. Knowlton, ran the business until his death in 1912 at the age of eighty-six. John D. later became president and remained so until his death in 1941, at the age of eighty-one years.

George H. Knowlton, a brother of John, came into the firm in the nineties as bookkeeper, and since the incorporation in 1912, served as Treasurer until his death in 1948 at the age of seventy-eight.

Ralph W. Knowlton, son of George, entered the business in 1915, served as Superintendent and Sales Engineer, and is now President-Treasurer. Theodore R. Hanna has been with the company thirty years and is still serving as Superintendent.

Between 1890 and 1910, the company built water wheels and boring mills, also, acetylene generators and stereopticon lanterns which were sold throughout the world. The acetylene generator was used on automobiles for several years preceding the electric lights.

During this period much experimental work and manufacturing was done on mohair plush looms, straw matting looms and artificial leather coaters. Other items manufactured were embossing rolls for mohair plush used on furniture and railroad car upholstering. Thousands of Konseal machines were made for a pharmaceutical concern and were used in almost all drug stores for putting up powders in capsules.

In 1908, the company started building the Knowlton Cold Saw, a machine for sawing steel bars and pipe with a circular blade. This machine was quite successful and many of the best shops and steel warehouses in New England were equipped with them. The cold saw was in demand for sawing off the end of shrapnel shells during the first World War.

After the war, the company worked to full capacity for several years building special machinery, heavy duty lac-

quer mixers, gears and sprockets, etc., for a large variety of industrial concerns throughout New England.

During the second World War the company was engaged in the manufacture of parts for ships and shipyards, machine tool parts, fifty caliber bullet machine parts and serviced numerous prime contractors with gears, sprockets, special tools and the general machine work necessary to maintain the plants.

Now in 1951 because of the world situation the company, along with its regular line, is again engaged in the manufacture of defense material.

DANA WARP MILLS: For years, Westbrook has been recognized not only as one of the great manufacturing centers of Maine, but as a city of industrial prominence in the Nation. The recognition is deserved, for the city's primacy in textiles and in paper is of long standing; and this primacy is intimately associated with two names, Dana and Warren.

It was at Saccarappa Falls on a small island in the river that Westbrook's textile industry developed when the Westbrook Manufacturing Company was built in 1830, but it was not until Woodbury Kidder Dana came to Westbrook in the winter of 1866-67 that the now famed Dana Warp Mills had their beginning.

During the last thirty years of The Westbrook Manufacturing Company's existence, the Dana Warp Mills were growing in importance and, in spite of vicissitudes, gradually forging ahead into their present position of importance in the textile industry. In essence, the reason for this advancing and continuing success was the character and ability of the Mills' distinguished founder, Woodbury Kidder Dana, and the qualities inherited from him by his successors in management.

Mr. Dana had prepared himself well for the success that was to come. He was of old New England stock, tracing his lineage, as does virtually everybody who bears the Dana name, back to Richard Dana who migrated from England

to Cambridge, Massachusetts, in 1640. He lived there, one of those solid citizens, for the next fifty years, and raised a family of eleven children. From them came the Danas who fought in the Colonial Wars; were pre-Revolutionary Minute Men; were in George Washington's army; in the War of 1812; and Woodbury K. Dana in the Civil War. He who was to play such a vital part in the industrial and civic life of Westbrook, served with the 29th Maine, after enlistment in 1863, in Texas, Louisiana and Virginia; and even after the Grand Parade and Review in Washington, in South Carolina in an occupying force, until he was finally mustered out in Augusta, August 22, 1865.

One of the Danas who earlier accepted military service was Luther Dana, father of the important Westbrook industrialist. He had come to Portland in 1808, and for fifty-eight years was a leading merchant of that city, first on Middle Street near the Casco Bank, then on Fore Street at the head of Central Wharf, and eventually on Commercial Street after that great thoroughfare was constructed by filling in the tidal area. Mr. Luther Dana was a member of the Portland Rifle Corps, and drilled daily with his company on Munjoy Hill. There were occasional alarms, and in September of 1813, the Rifle Corps was ordered aboard the captured British ship *Boxer*, war prize of the *Enterprise* in the famed sea battle. She had been re-armed and equipped. Mr. Dana was one of the new crew. In 1820, Governor King commissioned him an Ensign of a Company in the Militia; the next year, Governor Williamson made him a lieutenant; and in 1823, Governor Parris signed his commission as a Captain.

But it was for his business acumen, his integrity of character, his all-round virtues as a first citizen, that Luther Dana was best known and most admired. His house, at the northwest corner of State and Spring Streets in Portland, was one of culture and refinement in which music and good literature were known and loved, to which people like the Stowes frequently came. The Dana family heard at first

hand, and sometimes at first reading, from the lips of the author successive chapters of her "Uncle Tom's Cabin". In that home the Sabbath was strictly, even rigorously, observed. The family sat under Dr. Payson in the Second Parish Church for several years until Mr. Dana became one of the founders of the High Street Congregational Church in which he continued active until his death in 1870.

The Dana family life was in the best standard of staunch New Englandism. The children had their appointed tasks and chores—the cow to be milked, the horse to be cared for, the garden to be weeded. But there was time, too, in Summer, for games in the spacious yard, and for swimming either in the Fore River at the foot of State Street or in the Canal.

It was in such a home of dignity, grace and charm, a home presided over by a mother noted for her character, culture, good works and exceptional housekeeping ability, that Woodbury Kidder Dana was born, June 7, 1840. He was not strong and, for a time, because of some slight but temporary impairment of hearing, moved somewhat slowly through school. Over this difficulty, if it was one, he triumphed as he did, later, over somewhat less than normal vision which made him unnecessarily skeptical of success in passing the surgeon's examination for induction into the Army. He attended both private and public schools in Portland, and then took a post-graduate course in the then well-known and highly regarded Lewiston Falls Academy in Auburn.

He had no sooner completed his studies there than he felt the compulsion to enter business, preferably a business of his own. At the suggestion of an older brother, he leased a small plant at Gray and began the manufacture of cod lines, an important commodity at that time, and of bags and bunch yarn, two products which later became staple products of his Westbrook mill. Both capital and experience were lacking, however, for success in this first venture. The plant was closed, but the young man went immediately to Westbrook and began work in The Westbrook Manufac-

turing Company's duck mill as a card-grinder. Within a year he went to Lewiston as a second-hand in the Lincoln Mill, subsequently working in various capacities in the Bates, the Lewiston and the Continental Mills. His hours were long, his pay was small—one dollar and a quarter per day—but he was content, for he had as his great objective the ownership of a mill of his own, and was hungry for experience. Yet his day did not stop when the final mill bell rang. He was as eager to help others as himself. The family biographer, son-in-law Frank H. Swan, has written:

"It was not enough to slave 12 hours a day and to perform labor really beyond his strength; he must occupy his evenings in teaching other mill-hands whose early opportunities had been smaller than his. Several evenings a week he devoted to going about among the homes of these fellow employes and tutoring them in reading, writing and arithmetic. Later, he hired a room for this instruction, purchased books and supplies, and for three evenings a week drilled anywhere from 20 to 40 boys and men in elementary studies. Those who know the man need not be told that this was not a method taken to eke out his small wages—all instruction was gratuitous, and from his small earnings came the necessary supplies for his school.

"Always religious, up to this time young Dana had read his Bible through once a year. During these strenuous months and years, especially in the Winter when he had to leave home before light in the morning and return after dark at night, with scant time to eat his evening meal before going to his classes, he had resort to the expedient of reading a few verses while dressing in the morning, a fair criterion of the fulness of his waking hours . . . It required no little courage in those days for a man whose family was recognized as one of standing in the community to become a mill employe . . . But if the thought entered Mr. Dana's head that his friends might look down on him as a mill-hand, it did not trouble him. He had made up his mind to learn the business from A to Izzard, and he went about it in what is now recognized as the most practical way."

So passed the years between his first embarkation upon a business career in Gray and his years of service in the Union Army. And, as already noted, in 1866 Mr. Dana went to Westbrook to begin, with Thomas McEwan as silent co-partner, and a temporary one, the manufacture of cotton warps. Interestingly enough, the articles of partnership were drawn by a young Portland lawyer, later to become famous, Thomas Brackett Reed. The mill was at Saccarappa Falls,

a small, two-storied, red building, located about at the center of the present mills. The machinery, enough to run six hundred spindles, was hauled from Portland. Before the first year was over, three hundred more spindles were added. Seven years later, the business had outgrown its quarters, and was moved into a larger building on Main Street. Six years more, and the Dana Mill had grown to a size requiring a new site on the Island at the Falls, and to it more than a dozen additions were made before much larger floor space was required. In 1892, the Dana Warp Mills Corporation was organized.

Disaster struck on Labor Day of the next year when fire swept away a part of the mill. Yet while the ruins were still smoking, the next day found Mr. Dana making plans with contractors for a bigger and better mill, one that should have 7,000 spindles and be better equipped. Three years later a freshet caused heavy damage. In 1901, the old brick gingham mill, formerly the property of The Westbrook Manufacturing Company was purchased from the S. D. Warren Company which had acquired it. It was in good condition and well adapted to the business in hand. More new machinery, the most modern for its time, was brought in; the number of spindles jumped from 8,000 to 40,000; 1,200 twister spindles and 40 looms were engaged in making seamless grain bags; a picker-room, a dyehouse and a new boiler room were added. In 1908, the mill was doubled in size, the Island plant abandoned, and the spindles were increased in number to 52,000 spinning and 10,000 twisting. Since then, three additions have been made to the dyehouse, and a capacity of 80,000 pounds per week was reached by the year 1912.

In that year, the Company began direct sale of its products without the assistance of a commission house. This policy has been successful. The Dana warps, made upon honor, are known the Country over. They are in demand. Lamb's "Textile Industries of the United States says (Vol. 1, P.434):

"Dana warps have been favorably known to the trade for 40 years.

Men who, out of friendship, perhaps, began to patronize the make of these warps in the sixties are today Mr. Dana's best customers, simply because experience has shown them that the product shipped them is always standard, its color fast, its count correct and its supply certain. To keep a customer satisfied for half a century is no mean test of the value of goods supplied him. Mr. Dana does not believe in obsolete machines or methods; everything must be strictly up-to-date. The quality of his product is due to the use of the best-known appliances, skilled labor and intelligent supervision."

What was true after the first forty years of the Dana Warp Mills is equally true after more than another forty years have rolled past. The qualities of integrity, honor and intelligent supervision were the natural heritage of Mr. Dana's successors in the management of the Mills. Always seeking the best for his children, Mr. Dana sought for them advanced education beyond what he himself had had. His five daughters went variously to Dana Hall, Wellesley, Wheaton Seminary, Abbott Academy and Dana Hall. His two sons, Philip and Luther Dana, attended Bowdoin College, the former graduating there in 1896, and the latter in 1903. Both almost at once after graduation joined their father in the mill, as did Philip Dana, Jr., after his graduation from Bowdoin in the class of 1932. The last-named continued the Dana tradition of service to the Nation with his three and one-half years of duty in the Navy in World War II. He saw active service for two of these years in the Pacific on a destroyer escort as first lieutenant and executive officer. His ship saw action in the Central Pacific and at Okinawa.

Mr. Philip Dana, Sr., is now Treasurer of the corporation; Mr. Luther Dana, its President and Assistant Treasurer; Mr. Philip Dana, Jr., its Superintendent and Vice President. Incidentally, it may be noted that the Danas, their business associates, relatives and connections by marriage, comprise, perhaps the most solidly Bowdoin group of record. Mr. Philip Dana, Sr., was for years an Overseer, then a Trustee and for a quarter-century the Treasurer of the College, and with his brother, Luther, an Overseer, and his three sons, all Bowdoin men, has been devotedly immersed in Alumni activities. Other Bowdoin men have been

associated with the mill, notably Mr. Kenneth G. Stone, of the Class of 1917. Mr. Stone served in World War I as a lieutenant. In 1919 he came to the mill to learn the business, and learned it so well that he was made Superintendent in 1922. In 1935, he became General Manager and Assistant Clerk.

The infusion of new Dana blood greatly advantaged the Dana Warp Mills. Since the early 1900's, management has had to carry them through some of the most difficult industrial times in the history of the Country. As the Founder gradually yielded more and more of the supervision and management to his two sons, the Mills continued to prosper. Something of their steady growth already has been noted. But it should be pointed out that the continuing prosperity has been won not only against the normal odds of business competition, but also against the steady rise of the South in the textile industry and, presently, in face of the Federal Government's impositions and strictures, and of steadily advancing costs.

In the early 1920's, there were approximately thirty-six million cotton spindles in the Country, divided about evenly between the northern and southern mills. Competition was very keen, and the northern mills were being rapidly forced out of business by their higher labor costs. The result has been that today, when the number of spindles has been reduced to twenty-two million in the whole Country, only four million of them are in the North and eighteen million in the South. Yet it is a tribute to the intelligent supervision and superlative quality of product of Maine's cotton mills that all of those which were operating in the 1920's are running successfully today, though some of them are now rayon rather than cotton mills.

Prior to 1930, Mr. Philip Dana, Sr., has pointed out, there was very little change in cotton mill machinery. But since 1932, practically every cotton mill machine has been improved, and many processes have been eliminated. In mills that formerly ran with one shift per day on a 60-hour week, work has gradually been reduced, first to a 54-hour,

then to a 48-hour, and now to a 40-hour week, a schedule on which many mills are now operating with two or even three shifts per day.

The Dana Warp Mills were, of course, caught up in the times. They were among the first to adopt the new machinery and the new processes; among the first to accept long-draft spinning, long-draft roving, one-process picking, and the modern comber. These changes reduced labor costs per pound of product, but still were not enough to meet Southern competition. So, in the early 1930's, a line of novelty yarns was developed. In 1939, the rayon producers brought out a rayon staple fiber to compete with cotton fiber. This opened a new field for the Dana Warp Mills. New machinery was purchased to process this new fiber properly, and today about forty per cent of the Mills' output is made from rayon staple. The Mills were among the first in the field to make spun rayon yarns. This change has taken up the loss in cotton yarns and enabled them to run nearly three full shifts. All the other cotton warp mills have gone out of business, leaving the remaining cotton warp trade to Dana which now supplies some fifty mills with cotton and spun rayon warps.

In general, a warp may have a few hundred or even thousands of "ends" or threads, wound on "beams"; these ends are fed lengthwise into a loom where the woof, or filling, is, with shuttles, interlaced through them. The process of making a warp is as follows: bales of cotton are put into picker machines and become picker "laps". In the carding-room, this lap is made into "sliver". Thence it passes to drawing frames, and in progressive stages is reduced to finer and finer sizes. There follow spinning, spooling, warping and sizing on loom beams ready for weaving.

New machinery and the change from one shift to three have enabled the Dana Mills to increase their output from the 80,000 pounds per week with 52,000 spindles in 1920 to 160,000 pounds per week with 34,000 spindles of 1951. When running at capacity, the Mills employ about seven hundred people. The bulk of the cotton used is American-grown.

So much for the Dana Warp Mills' success in meeting competition, in marching ahead with the times, in resisting the textile industry's drift to the South, in modernizing the plant and adopting the new. From the time of the founding, the management has been wisely progressive. It has been under the handicap, however, of increasing Government regulation, of compliance with a multiplicity of directives, many of them conflicting, of various price control measures, of scarcities, and of heavier labor costs and Federal taxation. In all this it has had the company of most of industrial America, which has had to guess shrewdly what has lain ahead, and still must guess what is to come. So far, Dana Warp has been eminently successful in meeting the challenge.

The management has been liberal in the treatment of its working force. It provides a retirement, or pension, plan, accident and health insurance, life insurance, six paid holidays per year, vacation pay, Blue Cross hospital insurance. Besides granting these voluntary benefits, it is under the compulsion to provide Workmen's Compensation Insurance; to pay into the State's Unemployment Fund; to meet its share of the so-called Social Security. Figures based upon the 701 employes on the payroll, August 1, 1951, show that the annual cost to the Company of these services and benefits come to \$389 per employe, and that the total cost to the Company during the year ending August 1, 1951, was \$272,710.05. This was equivalent to 20.3 cents per labor hour, or 15.03 cents per labor dollar during the twelve months period, which is to say that for each hour worked, the employe really had more than 20 cents' worth of benefits added to his pay envelope by the Company. Inasmuch as most of the benefits were voluntary, the liberality and humanity of the management are conspicuous. They are even more conspicuous when it is noted that merely to install the retirement or pension plan, Dana Warp contributed no less a sum than \$274,547 to pay for past service of those subsequently to be retired.

There follows a table showing the individual amounts that each of the benefits has cost.

FRINGE BENEFITS

	ANNUAL COST PER EMPLOYEE	TOTAL COST PAST 12 MONTHS
ACCIDENT & HEALTH		
INSURANCE	\$ 33.11	\$ 23,206.93
LIFE INSURANCE	16.50	11,565.61
PENSION PLAN	106.10	74,373.41
PAID HOLIDAYS (6)	49.11	34,425.77
VACATION PAY	70.87	49,682.67
BLUE CROSS	9.28	6,506.90
WORKMEN'S COMPENSATION		
INSURANCE	12.64	8,857.64
	<hr/> \$297.61	<hr/> \$208,618.93
UNEMPLOYMENT TAX	54.15	37,960.09
O A B TAX	37.28	26,131.03
	<hr/> \$389.04	<hr/> \$272,710.05
RETIREMENT PLAN PAST SERVICE PAID		\$274,547.00

Such has been the history of the Dana Warp Mills, now eighty-five years old, and still going strong; such is their present position and importance amongst the Country's textile manufacturers. Theirs is an authentic success story, typical of America, a kind of pioneer story of the development from small beginnings of an industry that has made for itself a place in the economic sun through laborious toil, patience, vision, courage and an open mind, all these qualities of brain and heart that go to make up wise and progressive management, well aware of the time to be cautious and the time to be bold.

The Dana Warp Mills have made for themselves a firm place in the business life of Westbrook, the State and the Nation. But they have won no less firm a place in the admiration and respect of the community that down through the years has profited so handsomely from that early decision of the great entrepreneur, Woodbury Kidder Dana, to have a mill of his own, who wisely chose Westbrook as its site, who was both proud and fortunate to be able to leave it in such capable hands in the declining years of his life. The Dana Warp Mills, with such a history and heritage, can but face the future with confidence.

THE HASKELL SILK COMPANY: manufacturers of silk dress goods, was among the foremost silk manufacturers in New England, and supplied the people of the United States, through retail houses, in almost every state of the Union. This was one of the industries that carried the name of Westbrook throughout the entire country and attracted an industrious population to the town.

The company, which was the only one in Maine, and one of the oldest in New England was established in 1874, by James Haskell, who resigned his position that year as agent of The Westbrook Manufacturing Company. He, with his two sons, Frank and Edwin J., formed the company, with the following organization: President, James Haskell; Treasurer, Frank Haskell; General Manager, Edwin J. Haskell. At this time the treasurer, Frank Haskell, was appointed to succeed his father as agent of The Westbrook Manufacturing Company. He continued to serve both companies until 1889 when he was forced to resign as Treasurer of the Haskell Silk Mill to devote full time to The Westbrook Manufacturing Company although he continued as a director and part owner of the silk mill until his death in 1896.

This business was started in the wooden mill which stood on the west side of Bridge Street, next to the bridge. The first building was only fifty by fifty feet in size and had formerly been used by a Mr. Vogel, who made an unsuccessful attempt to manufacture silks there. It is told that Mr. Vogel was finally discouraged in his business attempt when his place was broken into and many tools stolen. On discovery of his loss he packed up the remaining tools and left the town. After this and before purchase by The Haskell Silk Company the building was used in the manufacture of saws.

The Haskell Silk Company started in business with a conservative policy, manufacturing at the start, only spool silk and twist, and six operatives were employed. From that time the business grew rapidly. In 1881 the company began the manufacture of dress goods, black being the predominant color, at first. The silks were all woven from pure silk, dyed in the yarn. In the next few years many beautiful colored silk and satin patterns were woven.

All the silks used in manufacturing came from Japan in the form of skeins and the following process of making silk material was used. The skeins were rewound, followed by a procedure known as "doubling", and were then ready for the spinners. Next the silk was reeled, dyed and wound again making it ready to be warped and quilted and woven into yard goods. The inspection or "picking" followed and the material was finally ready for finishing. The "picking" of the silk was for many years done by women in their own homes, creating a flourishing home industry in the town. The Haskell taffetas, with black warps and colored filling, were manufactured in large quantities and were widely sold in all of the United States.

Due to this large demand for these Glacé Taffetas, it was necessary to expand still further and a new mill was built further up the river on Bridge Street. This new mill contained thirty thousand square feet of floor space and employed from two hundred fifty to two hundred seventy-five workers. There was no age limit for the employees and, as long as the work was satisfactory, no one was ever discharged. A separate building housed the dye department, boiler house and repair shop. Power for this new mill was all electric, from the Mallison Power Company, five miles up the river at Mallison Falls, South Windham. This power station was built at the same time as the mill, by the owners of The Haskell Silk Company and Dana Warp Mills.

During the expansion period, the president, James Haskell of The Haskell Silk Company, retired due to ill health and William W. Poole and Lemuel Lane, family connections, joined The Haskell Silk Company as president and treasurer respectively. The founder of The Haskell Silk Company, James Haskell, died in 1891 at the age of eighty-three years. He had been prominent as a public citizen and was beloved by the Westbrook citizens, whom he was always ready to assist whenever they were in trouble or need. The town went into mourning at his death.

His son Edwin J. Haskell, general manager of the mill was, like his father, a public spirited citizen, and always took

a great interest in educational matters. He was graduated from college in 1872 being a member of the first graduating class of Maine State College of Agriculture and Mechanic Arts now the University of Maine. His four sons later graduated from the same institution. During his life he served for many years on the Westbrook School Committee, and was a member of the Board of Trustees of the University of Maine.

It is an interesting fact that The Haskell Silk Company was one of the pioneers in the use of electric lights. They had their own dynamos to generate electricity. Previously, in the mill, lighting was done with open gas lights over the looms, and quite often the flames would burn the harnesses in the looms. When electric lights were installed, the fire insurance companies objected, and preferred that the company continue with the use of gas, as they considered the electric lights a fire hazard. It was only after several consultations that the electric lights were allowed to remain.

It is interesting to note that for several years, the shipment of finished goods from the old mill were transported every day to the railroad station in a wheelbarrow, by the American Express Company agent. The flood in 1896 did very little damage to the old mill and operation was resumed in a very few days. During the money panic in 1897 the old mill was forced to shut down for a time, not from lack of orders, but because banks could not supply sufficient money for the payroll. For a short time, before the new mill was constructed, extra looms were installed in the old cotton mill of The Westbrook Manufacturing Company. This was necessary, due to the increased demand for the Glacé Taffetas.

Owing to drastic changes in market demands from yarn dyed goods to piece dyed goods, and the introduction of rayon and other synthetic fibers, which took, to a large extent, the place of pure dye silks, the silk company was forced to suspend operations and the business was closed in 1933. The closing of the only silk mill in Maine was greatly regretted as it was a home company and a family concern employing people with established homes in Westbrook.



First Haskell Silk Mill



Westbrook Manufacturing Company
(Gingham Mill)



Valentine Street School, 1850-1951



Pride's Corner School—1951

CHAPTER 7

EDUCATION

ONE of the most important and valuable assets any town or city can possess is a carefully planned and efficiently supervised school system. The development of Westbrook's school system is a most interesting story. Many of the earliest records were destroyed by fire, or carried away by the French and Indians when Falmouth was destroyed in 1690. From that date, and up to the time Westbrook became an incorporated town in 1814, the town records were loosely kept, thus making it very difficult to find data concerning the early schools of the town. Westbrook was a part of Falmouth for many years and, when Massachusetts assumed the government of the Province of Maine in 1658, the province came under the Massachusetts school laws of 1647. This law demanded a school in towns of 50 families and a grammar school in towns of 100 families. It did not meet with the hearty approval of the towns, as the selectmen found it a real problem to raise enough money to pay the teachers.

In his "History of Portland" William Willis states that the first actual employment of a school teacher in early Falmouth was in 1733 when Robert Bailey was hired at a salary of seventy pounds a year to teach school six months on the Neck (Portland), three months at Purpooduck (Cape Elizabeth) and three months on the north side of Back Cove. During the next year we find him teaching at Stroudwater, Spurwink, New Casco and Presumpscot. It is of interest to note that the selectmen of the several districts were authorized to proportion the time a teacher could teach in any locality by the amount of tax money paid into the town treasury. It is obvious that under this ruling only districts having the largest population could expect much help in school activities. This ruling also explains why Saccarappa is not mentioned as being eligible to any part of the school funds until 1761. In this year we find that only fifty pounds were raised by the town for schools. This amount was distributed as follows: "To the Neck twenty-five pounds, Back

Cove, eleven pounds, Long Creek nine pounds, and Saccarappa five pounds." This five pounds allotted to Saccarappa could have been for the establishment of a new school, possibly our first school, or it could have been for one already in operation. Records do not give the location of the school or the name of its teacher.

Newspaper articles written some years ago by two very old citizens of Westbrook, state that when they were children, there was a school on Saco Street where both young and old attended. The articles also tell that the school was the only one in the village at that time. Considering the age of the men who wrote the articles and the dates on which they were written, we are able to place a school on Saco Street long before the present (1951) schoolhouse was built in 1868.

It is said that in 1776 Joseph Bailey of old Falmouth gave his sons, Daniel and Josiah, eighty acres of land located near the corner of Pierce and Cumberland Streets. Daniel's forty acres were located next to this corner and, in this same year, he sold to the selectmen a small portion of land for the erection of a schoolhouse, but there is no town record to show that a school was built on this site. However, about 1812-13 a schoolhouse was built at the corner of Bridge and Cumberland Streets, a section known as the Four Corners, and was called the North School. This was the first schoolhouse definitely known to have been built in the area now comprising the City of Westbrook. Earlier school sessions of which there are many accounts were held in a room off the kitchen in the old Winslow house, later known as the Boody house, located a short distance off East Bridge Street.

An historical article written some years ago by Mrs. Sarah Blair Griggs, who was a relative of the Blair family, leads us to assume that the first teacher was Robert Blair. Mrs. Griggs was born, lived all her life, and died in the same house at Rocky Hill, Westbrook. She was the daughter of Mary Blair and Peter Cobb and a granddaughter of Robert Blair. She writes:

"Robert Blair was born and raised in the county of Armagh, Ire-

land. In an old text book, belonging to Mr. Blair entitled 'The Young Mathematician's Guide', was found written in his own handwriting, 'Bought in Armagh in the 1st month 3rd day, in 1791'. Also was written:—'Landed in Portland, Maine, on the 20th day of the 6th month 1794. Began teaching in Falmouth on the 30th day of the 6th month 1794.' He brought letters of recommendation as a teacher and minister of the so-called Quakers or Friends. His credentials were accepted and he filled the position to the Falmouth Society until his death in the town on June 17th, 1874. The first school in Westbrook taught by Master Blair was held in the Nathan Winslow house. This included all pupils from Saccarappa and Congin north of the Presumpscot River as well as Rocky Hill. It was the beginning of the old North school. Master Blair was possessed of an amiable disposition visiting the sick and afflicted, often calling men and boys from the fields for a short session of quiet meditation or fervent prayer, dismissing them with the benediction, 'Now dears, I will not detain thee longer'."

While Mrs. Griggs' article is not an official town record, we have every reason to believe that it is correct. It is a well known fact that the Winslow family were the first to embrace the Quaker faith in Falmouth, and that they were instrumental in having Master Blair locate in this section of the town.

Several of the early teachers at the North School came from Ireland. Among them were Masters Kennard and Mahon. This school had many highly educated men of that day as teachers and it continued in use for thirty-five years. In 1892 a reunion of the pupils of the old school was held in Chase's barn at the Four Corners (at Bridge and Cumberland Streets) near the site of the old schoolhouse and many interesting facts concerning the old school were brought out during the day. Among some of the old relics shown were textbooks bearing the date of 1794. Oliver A. Cobb called the assemblage to order, the Reverend A. W. Pottle opened the exercises with prayer, and the Honorable Leander Valentine delivered the address of welcome. He spoke of the contrast between the advantages in schools of that day and those of the past. He said that it cost about \$300 to build the schoolhouse of his day and that some pupils in those early days had to walk two and three miles to attend classes.

The Reverend Mr. Freeman of Scarborough, a former teacher, gave a history of the school in which he recalled the tradition that the schoolhouse was haunted. It was said that one of the workmen had been killed and his body buried beneath the teacher's desk. Lights had been seen in the windows at night and, one day, to all appearances, a ghost with winding sheet was seen gilding in and out among the alder bushes, for the adjacent ground was then a swamp. School was dismissed and the children ran home in great fright. In closing his remarks, Mr. Freeman stated that "the Common schools are the glory of our land."

The winter terms were usually taught by men as the older boys who were needed on the farms in the spring and summer attended these classes and were harder to discipline. Mr. Cobb included in his remarks stories of some of the pupil's escapades.

"In those early days there were boys as mischievous and full of pranks as in later years, and possessed of more courage and audacity. Toward one of the men teachers they manifested great insubordination, watching constantly for an opportunity to irritate him. One day seeing the teacher enter an out building, they rushed out in a body and tipped it over and he was extricated with much difficulty. Master Fulsom was engaged to tame down the unruly boys and he had a reputation as a disciplinarian and used the ferule without hesitation. One day he had occasion to punish a boy named Moses Babb who lived with the Winslow family. The next day young Babb appeared at the school on horseback and riding up near a window where all could hear, sang with a loud voice, the following lines that he had composed for the occasion:

Levi Fulsom did come down
To teach a school in Westbrook town,
Called Jim out in the floor,
Told him "here's the rule, and there's the door."

There were additional lines reflecting on the Master's partiality for Lydia Austin.

Mr. Cobb recalled that great attention was given in those days to the so-called "Manners". When a class was called onto the floor, "Toes to the line" was the order. At the word, "attention" from the teacher, the girls curtsied and the boys bowed. The same procedure was followed on entering the school in the morning, and, on leaving at night, each scholar

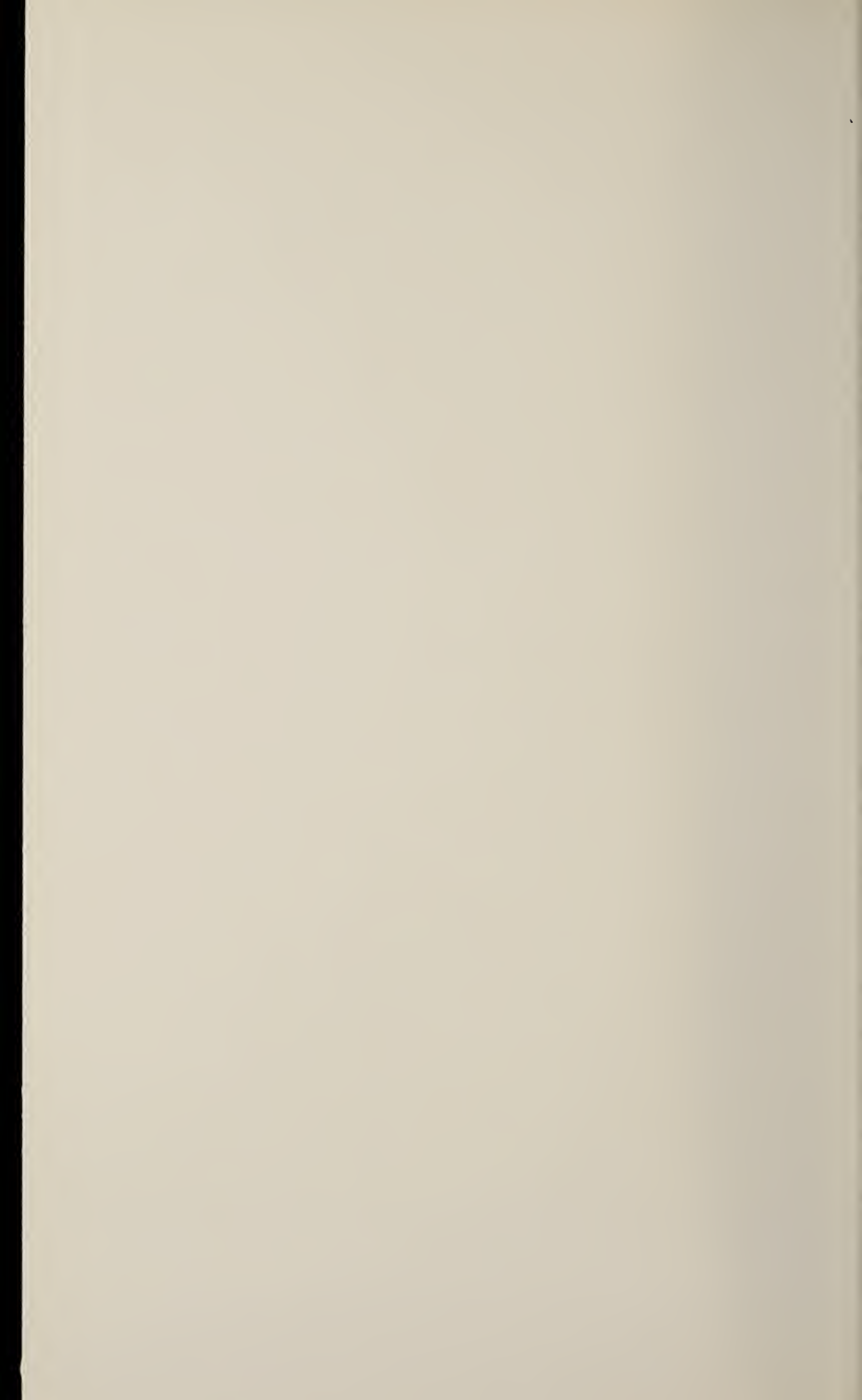
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also "made his manners". When the school committee visited the school, each scholar arose while the visitors bowed to the teacher, then to the girls and boys and the pupils remained standing until the committee members were seated. The same procedure was followed when the committee retired.

Brief biographies of some of the teachers were given. One was about Sarah Blair, a daughter of Robert Blair, who stood out prominently among the early teachers. It has been said of her that "she was of a wide awake temperament, apt to teach, with a love for the same and was highly esteemed by her pupils." She was educated in the common schools of the town and was taught advanced studies by her father and also attended a private school in Portland. She became an enthusiastic believer in phrenology and, for several years, did character readings during the winter months. She taught at the old North school for three years at a salary of \$2.50 per week and was nearly fifteen years getting her pay. At that she was obliged to accept 1000 feet of fence boards as part payment to clear up the account. Miss Blair died at Rocky Hill in 1850, leaving a host of friends to mourn her loss.

Rebecca Harris is remembered for adopting the monitor system in school work. All around the outside of the building were tents made of shawls where each monitor held the class assigned for study or recitation. Miss Harris died at Duck Pond (Highland Lake) at an advanced age. Mary Atwell was the daughter of a Methodist minister, then located in Saccarappa. She was bright, smart, interesting and full to overflowing with fun and vivacity. Some of her pupils remembered an uncommonly smart looking gallant on horseback, who rode up to the schoolhouse, presumably on a school errand, but who seemed to have the happy faculty of enabling the fair school mistress to return to her work radiant with smiles. Miss Caroline King was a most faithful teacher. At one time a complaint was made to the school committee that Miss King was teaching dancing and quite a stir followed until the committee visited the school. On

investigation the so-called dancing proved to be calisthenics, an exercise of the body and limbs to promote strength and beauty.

Miss Sarah B. Winslow who lived at Congin (Cumberland Mills) was a teacher at the old school. She was the youngest daughter of Captain Aaron Winslow and later married Dr. Milton Seavey of Portland for whom Seavey Street was named. She was unusually gifted as a writer but chose the profession of teaching in which she remained for many years. Calvin Stowe, afterwards the husband of Harriet Beecher Stowe, was a teacher in the old North School at one time. Among other well remembered teachers were: George Quinby, who married Ida Griggs, a teacher and writer of the humorous tale "Where is Westbrook"; Leander Valentine, Westbrook's first mayor; Dr. Albus Ray, an uncle of Fabius M. Ray; Oliver Dole, Benjamin Freeman, Nathaniel J. French, Sophronia Quinby, Abbie Cutter, Mary French and Betsy Quinby.

In 1848 the old schoolhouse was found to be unsuitable for school purposes and was sold to Archelaus Lewis, son of Major Lewis. Mr. Lewis removed the building to a point on Cumberland Street nearly opposite the present residence of Mr. Joseph Warren and remodeled it into a dwelling for himself. A second North School was built on Pierce Street on the present site of the home of Mr. A. Augustus Staples. This school was a two story building and was in use for thirty years until it was sold at auction, being bid off for one hundred twenty-five dollars, taken down and moved away.

It was about 1817 that the fund willed by Peter Thatcher was used for the establishment and maintenance of a free grammar school for students living within a mile of Saccarappa bridge. The income from this money provided grammar school education for one or two months during each year up to the time that the town organized its own grammar school. Peter Thatcher was born July 21, 1774 the son of the Honorable and Reverend Josiah Thatcher, a prominent citizen of Gorham, Maine, and practiced law in

Seccarappa for about five years previous to his death in Gorham on January 26, 1811. The old Thatcher grammar school was located on the present site of the Westbrook Gas Company office on Main Street. When this school was sold, it was remodeled and became a moccasin factory. After some years it was again sold and removed to Dunn Street where it was converted into a dwelling house.

After 1850, when the school was discontinued and the building sold, the so-called Thatcher fund was placed in the hands of a board of trustees who were instructed to use it for educational purposes where it would do the most good. There is a record dated December, 1913, stating that the money up to that time had been spent for the following purposes: Librarian of Westbrook Social Library, \$100; Manual Training school \$250; Westbrook High School \$600, most of which was for chemical apparatus and books; and more than \$700 had been contributed to different individuals in amounts ranging from \$50 to \$100 each towards completing their education in Normal Schools or Colleges. The trustees of the Thatcher Fund in 1913 were John E. Warren, W. K. Dana, W. W. Poole and H. P. Murch. The remainder of the fund was used to assist in providing a practice field on the grounds of the present high school.

It was in 1820 when Maine became a separate state that an early act of the Legislature required all incorporated towns to be divided into school districts. By 1824 the town of Westbrook was divided into thirteen districts with district agents who hired the teachers and looked after the business of the schools. In 1871 Deering, which had been a part of Westbrook for fifty-seven years, became a separate town thus reducing the districts within the town of Westbrook to seven. These districts were located as follows: No. 1 Saco Street, No. 2 Main Street, No. 3 Spruce Street, No. 4 Cumberland Mills, No. 5 North Street, No. 6 Duck Pond, No. 7 Pride's Corner. Two years later the district agents were abolished and the schools became the property of the town. During this period the town had built several new schools. The two story wooden grammar school building on Main Street,

located very near the present Westbrook High School was built in 1850 to replace the Thatcher Grammar School. By 1868 a two story wooden schoolhouse had been built on Saco Street, where, as has been previously mentioned, there may have been an earlier school but no record has been found as to the date it was built or what became of it.

A small schoolhouse was built at Pride's Corner at an early date but there is no record of the actual date of the building. However, in an old record book kept by the school committee in district No. 7 (Pride's Corner), it is stated that, in 1845, the schoolhouse was badly in need of repairing and should undergo extensive repairs or be replaced with a new building. This could have been the first schoolhouse which was built on land given to the town by Peter Pride. The old record book states that the subject of building a new school at Pride's Corner, was discussed at nearly every meeting of the school committee for twenty-four years, and that, in 1868, a committee was chosen to ask for two bids, one for a 30' x 50' wooden building and another for one of the same size of brick construction. At a meeting held April 6, 1869 the building committee reported it had received proposals for both wooden and brick buildings, and the bids were as follows:

For a Brick school 30' x 50' with basement	\$4,498.00
For a Wooden school 30' x 50' without basement	3,292.00
For a basement separately	440.00

It was voted that C. E. Boody, Darias Lowell and W. B. Babb should constitute the building committee and that the building committee receive \$2.00 per day. It was also voted to accept the bid for a brick school with a basement, and to proceed to build at once. When it was decided to build a new school at Pride's Corner, it was thought best to build on the site of the old school. However, when a survey of the lot was made, it was found that one-quarter of an acre of additional land was needed for the new and larger school. Mr. Thomas Lowell owned the land adjoining the old school lot and, after the school committee had made a careful survey of the land needed, it was decided to offer Mr. Lowell \$125 for it but he thought the land was worth more and refused to

accept the committee's offer. A short time later the committee again offered him \$125 and again he refused to accept the offer. When the selectmen found that Mr. Lowell's action was holding up the building of the school, he was told that court action would be brought against him if he did not accept the committee's offer. He then signed the receipt for \$125 and construction of the new school was started. After twenty-four years of waiting and planning the new brick school became a reality in 1869.

At a meeting held January 20, 1870, the building committee submitted their final report stating that they had expended all of the money in their hands for furniture for the new school and submitted the following report:

Recapitulation	
Paid out for lot	\$ 125.00
Paid out for fencing and grading	245.22
Paid out for plans	25.00
Paid out for building house	4,451.78
Paid out for furnishing same	590.72
Paid out for building committee's services	75.10
Total	<hr/> \$5,512.82

The old schoolhouse served the Pride's Corner district for eighty-two years until 1951 when due to the rapid increase in population in this section, it became necessary to provide additional school rooms. The Superintendent of Schools, Mr. Anthony G. L. Brackett, and the school board after making a careful investigation of Westbrook's school requirements, recommended that a new and larger school be built at Pride's Corner as soon as practicable. In the spring of 1951 a contract was signed by the city, with the Camillo Profenno Company of Portland, to construct a seven room modern school building on a twelve acre site adjacent to the old school. The architect was Lester I. Beal of Portland. The cost of the new school, including land, building and furnishings was \$146,571. Although the building has not been entirely completed, it was opened for use September 17, 1951. Enrollment on the opening day was 244 pupils, and as the school was designed for 245 pupils the need for a new building was clearly demonstrated. This new school replaced the

small brick building at Pride's Corner which was designed for sixty pupils and, also, the small school at Highland Lake.

There was a schoolhouse at Duck Pond (Highland Lake) at an early date, possibly about the time that the first school was built at Pride's Corner. The school committee of district No. 6 reported to the selectmen that the old school at Duck Pond had been in an unsafe condition for several years and, in 1874, it was sold for \$10. It was replaced with a new two story building. Only the lower room was used for school purposes, the upper room being finished by the citizens residing in that vicinity for use as a public hall. The total cost of the building to the town, including the lot, basement and grading was about \$2,700. In 1875 a one story schoolhouse was built at Rocky Hill. This building, after forty-one years of service, was torn down in 1916, and a large four room wooden building built on a location a short distance south of the first school's site.

Records giving the actual date of the first school built at Congin (Cumberland Mills) are obscure. There was a little red schoolhouse on Main Street about where the old road which ran from Stroudwater Street and cut off back of Woodlawn Cemetery came across the fields to a point between Berkley Street and Webster Avenue. This road no longer in existence was used for hauling logs to Stroudwater. An elderly citizen of Cumberland Mills states that another early schoolhouse built in this section of the town was located near Major William Naylor's present home, next to the residence of Benjamin E. Soule (1951) on Main Street. This four room wooden schoolhouse was used as a grammar school, and drinking water had to be brought from a spring in Lamb's field near the present Lamb Street.

It was previous to 1869 that a two room brick schoolhouse was built on Main Street near State Street for an old record book kept by the school committee of district No. 7 at Pride's Corner reads as follows: "It was voted that the Committee be instructed to get proposals for a school building to be built of brick, and finished in all respects in regard to quality of material and workmanship same as the schoolhouse at Con-

gin". In 1893 the school committee recommended the removal of the small grammar school building to be replaced by a larger structure. On approval by the city council additional land was purchased, and a new building of eight rooms was built facing Forest Street at a cost of \$20,616. The school, completed in 1894, is the present Forest Street School. During the transition period, classes for the pupils were held in Brown's Hall, where the Warren Memorial Library is now located, in the old Presumpscot Hose House and Cumberland Hall.

Sometime previous to 1871 a small schoolhouse was built on the County Road between the corner of Spring Street and Stroudwater Village at a point known as Spruce Swamp. The building was later removed to a point northwesterly of Spring Street corner, where it became known as the Spruce Street School. During the later years of its existence the school was alternately opened and closed until 1900 when a school committee report records that Mr. George Johnson was secured to transport pupils from the district to schools in the city. Eventually the school was discontinued.

It was in 1882 that a four room brick building was built on Bridge Street. Only two rooms were finished for use at that time and these were occupied at once. In 1885 a two room brick schoolhouse was built on Main Street and became known as the Warren School. The following year a wooden schoolhouse with three rooms was built on Brown Street and named Brown Street School. This same year the present high school was erected on a site very close to the wooden grammar school which was built in 1850.

The old two story building on Main Street which had served as a grammar school for twenty-three years and fourteen years as a high school was removed to a point on Stroudwater Street, then up across the fields to a location on Valentine Street. Mr. Simon Mayberry was in charge of moving the building and chose this route to avoid the steep hill on Spring Street. It has been used as an elementary school at its present (1951) location on Valentine Street for sixty-four years. As it was built one hundred and one years

ago, it has the distinction of being the oldest school in service in Westbrook at the present time.

The new brick high school was not completed and ready for occupancy until the spring term of school in 1887. A newspaper account of the dedicatory exercises reads as follows:

"During the Spring of 1887, an important event occurred which marked the removal from the old to the new high school building, which was dedicated May 8, 1887 with appropriate exercises. The house was filled to overflowing. H. P. Murch, Esquire, secretary of the building committee, called the meeting to order and nominated M. H. K. Griggs as chairman. Mr. Griggs made a few remarks appropriate to the occasion. Prayer was offered by Rev. E. E. Bacon. The dedicatory hymn was sung by the Congregational Church Choir. The address was by Kimball E. Eastman, chairman of the building committee and speeches were made by the Hon. Leander Valentine, John E. Warren, Frank Haskell, S. H. Hatch and others."

A high school course of study was first introduced in Westbrook schools in 1873 when the town voted to establish two high schools. One was located on the second floor of the old Main Street grammar school, and the other located at Pride's Corner School. The Main Street high school continued to function, but the Pride's Corner high school was discontinued. For ten years after the high school was established, students who had completed the prescribed course of studies at the school were not privileged to receive public recognition in the form of a formal graduation ceremony, but were presented a certificate in the class room at the high school stating that they had completed the course. It was in 1883 that the first public graduation was held in the Westbrook Congregational Church with a formal program of music, readings by people who were not members of the graduating class and an original essay by each graduate. The three students in the graduating class of that year were Lotta May Woodman, Eleanor Murch and Hattie Hamblen Hacker.

In 1891 Westbrook became a city just twenty years after its division from Deering, and during that time, there had been erected and put into service twenty school rooms, one each year. The teaching force had been increased from ten

to twenty-five, and a high school building employing four teachers had been built, which was a good record for those days. To meet the ever increasing number of students attending the high school, it was found necessary to have more rooms. In 1913 construction was started on a new annex to the high school which was completed the following year. This addition provided nine new rooms, which served the school for over twenty years, when it was found that the school was again in need of additional space. Another brick annex was built and made ready for occupancy in 1936 providing the school with eight additional rooms and a combined auditorium and gymnasium.

Through the years and following the progress of education changes took place in the system and new departments were added. It required many years of effort by a few progressive citizens to convince the town people that the graded school system was far superior to the old district system. Among the most ardent of the early supporters of this system was Mr. Charles Boody, a prominent citizen of Westbrook, who taught school and later became an active member of the school committee. It was largely through his efforts that the graded system was first used experimentally in Westbrook schools. There were several attempts made to use this system but it was not until about 1885, through the efforts of Mr. William W. Cutter, that it became permanently established in the schools.

Through the interest and generosity of the S. D. Warren family, vocational education had its start in Westbrook schools. The equipment for the first Manual Training course established in a room at the Warren School in 1895 was donated by Mr. S. D. Warren. The course was open to both boys and girls until 1906 when the space had become overcrowded and the need for a course in Domestic Science was felt. A town report of that year reads: "There has been a demand for a department of Manual Training for girls instead of following the prescribed course in wood working, which course is more suitable for boys." The Warrens were again interested and the trustees of the estate of S. D. War-

ren generously contributed to provide a room and equipment, so that the only expense to the city was the salary of a teacher. The room was opened in September 1906 with Miss Charlotte Lowell as the first teacher. Pupils of the sixth grade were taught sewing, while cooking was taught in grades seven and eight. No mention of a high school group was made until 1910 when cooking lessons were offered to girls of the junior and senior classes giving a one-half point credit for a year's work.

The Industrial Department at the high school was started in 1909 with Stephen E. Patrick as director. For the first few years classes were held in a room at the Dana Mills warehouse. It was in 1912 when Miss Cornelia Warren, a daughter of Samuel Dennis Warren, donated the brick building and machinery which is now a part of the present high school. In 1914 the mill room was established and the following year the manual training equipment was moved from the Warren School to the new Industrial Department building. The Domestic Science department was moved from the Warren School to the high school building in 1918 where it has remained with the name changed to Home Economics.

By 1937 a course in Vocational Economics was introduced for high school pupils with Miss Frema Staples as instructor. Now, in 1951, the course is part of the curriculum for grades seven and eight and high school sophomores, juniors and seniors. It is a far cry from the little red schoolhouse of long ago to the modern, commodious, well equipped public schools of today with their highly trained staffs of instructors. It is obvious that this great transformation was not accomplished without a great deal of planning and hard work. Great credit should be given to the various school committees, superintendents, and the teachers, past and present, for guiding the development of the schools from the days of early settlement to the present time.

The first parochial school to be established was St. Hyacinthe parochial school in a small wooden structure located on Walker Street in Westbrook. This school was opened in 1883 and served until 1893 when a four story brick building

was erected and is still in service. The school accommodates five hundred pupils who are under the direction of the Sisters of the Presentation of Mary. The school building was recently completely renovated and modernized at considerable expense so that it now boasts all modern school facilities. The curriculum is that prescribed by the provisions for State Elementary Schools and further instruction is given, for those desiring it, in the French language. Religious education is given to all pupils. Like all Catholic parochial schools this school is under the direct and personal supervision of the Superintendent of Schools for the Roman Catholic Diocese of Portland, Maine.

St. Mary's parish decided in 1916 to build, at the rear of the property, what would eventually become an eight room school building. By 1929 four school rooms had been finished and equipped on the second floor and St. Mary's School was opened with the Sisters of St. Francis in charge. Since 1947 the school has been under the supervision of the Sisters of Mercy. At the present time (1951) there is an enrollment of one hundred fifty pupils, including sub-primary through Grade VIII.

LIBRARIES

One of the earliest Social Libraries, possibly the third, to be established in Maine was the Falmouth Social Library at Saccarappa Village in 1802. An old book bound in calf leather and preserved at the present Walker Memorial Library has there words on the flyleaf: "Records, Notes and Proceedings of the Falmouth Social Library, held at Saccarappa, Nov. 4, 1802."

In the same record book may also be found the words of the original agreement: "We the subscribers, Sensible of the importance of information to society and the tendency of social libraries to promote that end, do mutually agree to contribute for that purpose 2 dollars for such shares affixed to our names; to be disposed of in purchasing such books, subject to such rules and regulations as a majority of the members may think proper." Among the original proprietors, as they were called, are the names of Timothy Pike,

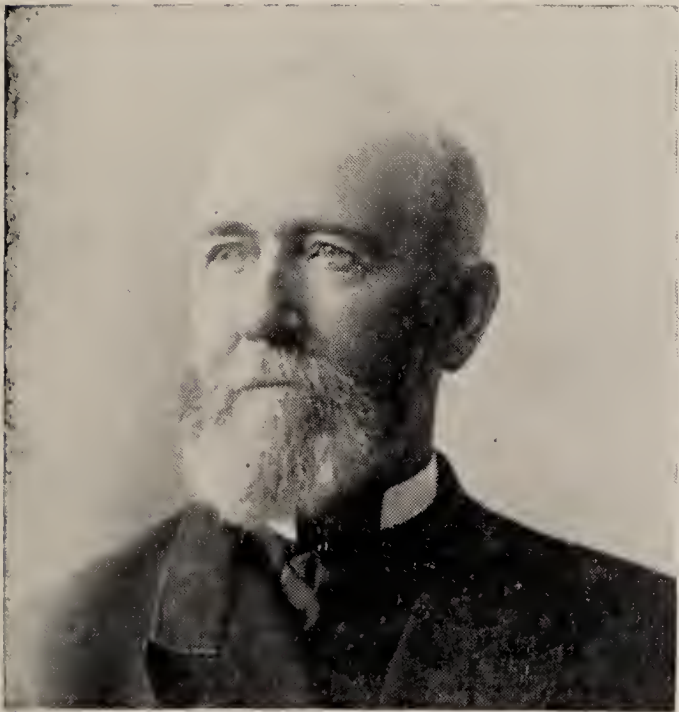
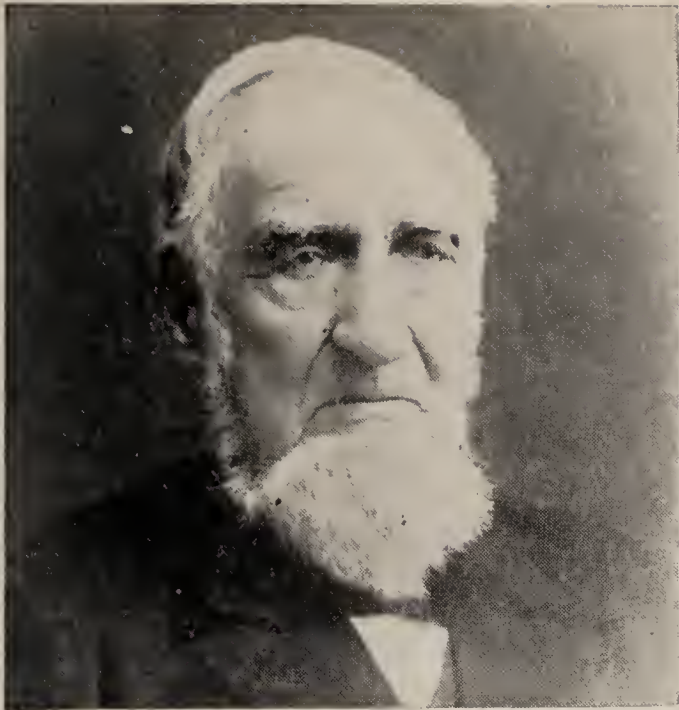
Peter Thatcher, Frederick Quimby, Daniel Babb, Edmund March, Hezekiah Elwell, Joseph Hawes and several others with a total of thirty-two in all. No proprietor seems to have owned more than three shares, with the privilege of borrowing one book per share.

By January 15, 1803, the books were assembled and Timothy Pike was chosen as librarian. A bookcase with lock and key was provided at the expense of the society for the purpose of keeping the books safe. A long list of rules and regulations was adopted, and the duties assigned to the librarian, who received no salary, were many although the library hours were only "the first and third Mondays of every month from 3:00 to 6:00 o'clock P.M."

During the years that followed more proprietors were added to the list and the library was usually housed in the home of the current librarian. When Falmouth was subdivided in 1814 and this area became the town of Westbrook, the proprietors met and, by vote, changed the name to Westbrook Social Library. All rules and regulations were to remain the same.

Apparently a need for increased funds was felt in the next few years for the cost of shares was first increased to four dollars and then again to eight dollars per share. At this time in 1826, there were sixty-three proprietors on the list. An amusing incident occurred when David Hayes, librarian at the time, was charged a fee of fifty cents a year for the privilege of keeping some of his own books in the bookcase. However, three years later this same David Hayes became the first paid librarian of the Society. He was paid \$3.00 per year for two years when the amount was reduced to \$2.50 due to lack of funds.

In the year 1840 so little interest was being shown that the committee considered, "selling or otherwise disposing of the library," but this did not meet with the approval of all so a reorganization took place. This must have been successful, for three years later a catalog of books and by-laws of the Society were printed. These are still preserved in the present library and the titles such as "Smillies' Sermons," "Tele-



1 Joseph Walker
4 Samuel D. Warren
5 Woodbury K. Dana

2 Frank Haskell
3 Oliver Cobb
6 Leander Valentine



Walker Memorial Library



Warren Memorial Library

machus" and "Plutarch's Lives" may be found on the pages.

For the next twenty years the library seems to have prospered but, in 1866, it became inactive, and the bookcase and remaining books were stored by Mr. Fabius M. Ray for the next seventeen years. Again interest was awakened by some of the business men and, in 1883, a meeting was called with the former proprietors to reorganize the library. At a public meeting held in Odd Fellows Hall for discussion there was standing room only. New shares were sold and the next ten years found the library very active with Mr. Fabius M. Ray as librarian, followed by Mr. Edward E. Bacon. They were assisted by the voluntary help of young women of the town and the library was open each Saturday afternoon and evening, being housed in various buildings on Main Street.

In 1891 Mr. Joseph Walker, of Portland, a former resident of Westbrook, died leaving a fund for a library building to be called The Memorial Library, any residue to be used to create a trust fund for purchasing books. The upkeep of the library was to be financed by the city, directed by regents appointed by the mayor.

On May 26, 1894, at a formal presentation, the new library costing \$42,700 was accepted by the city. The old bookcase of pumpkin pine which, for so many years, had been carried from place to place was relegated to the attic until 1949 when the case, of most interesting construction, was restored and again put to use in the library. The books of the former Westbrook Social Library, numbering 1,400, were given to form a nucleus for the new and larger collection. For the first time Westbrook citizens were able to borrow books *free of charge*.

Mr. Walker had come to Pride's Corner as a young boy and later engaged in the lumbering industry at Great Falls and Saccarappa. Although he afterwards moved to Portland his interest in Westbrook never ceased. One of his great interests was the advancement of education, best expressed by the words of his will:

"My wish and desire is that the trust created for the benefit of the town shall be construed as an earnest expression on my part to pro-

mote the cause of education, and advance knowledge and information among the residents of the town, and I trust that said town in its corporate capacity will add to said fund, and assist, continue and maintain this object in which I take a deep interest - - - and that residents will aid the same by their influence and means."

Miss Hattie M. Raymond was elected the first librarian and the library was open from 9:00 A.M. to 9:00 P.M. daily with the exception of Sundays and holidays. The librarians changed frequently until Miss Lillian Quimby was appointed in 1904 and held the position for sixteen years.

Miss Jennie G. Andrews who had been the assistant librarian during the preceding years was appointed as librarian in 1920 and served in that capacity until 1947. It was while she was librarian that library service for children was begun. The first mention of a purchase of juvenile books was made in her first annual report and, soon after, special borrower's cards were issued to children. Also, the trustees granted teachers the privilege of borrowing a number of books for classroom use.

It would seem that Mr. Walker's hopes had been realized as over the past fifty years the permanent collection has grown from 5,000 books to one of more than 20,000 and library service to the community has expanded. Many improvements and additions have been made. In 1938 the Ammoncongin Literary Club sponsored and furnished a Children's Room on the lower floor and has donated, annually, funds for equipment and upkeep. In 1948, through the sponsorship of the Westbrook Garden Club and the interest of many citizens, the area at the back of the library was developed into a small park and outdoor reading room. Thus the citizens have maintained their trust.

In 1879 the Cumberland Mills Library, as it was then called was established in one small room over the main office of the S. D. Warren Paper Company. The Company's founder, Samuel D. Warren, had this space set aside as a reading room for the men coming off duty on the machines. To be sure, books for circulation could be taken out only on Saturday afternoons from two until six P.M., when a librarian was on duty, but the room served its purpose during the week as a center for browsing and relaxation.

One thousand volumes formed the nucleus of this library, to which Mr. Warren added every new book printed on Warren paper not wanted in his personal collection. It was his wife, however, who became the library's greatest benefactor, for it was her will which set up the bequest for the Susan B. Warren Memorial Foundation which supports what is known as the Warren Memorial Library today. After the death of Mrs. Warren in 1894 the library work was carried on by her daughter, Miss Cornelia, and son, Edward Perry Warren. Edward, an Honorary Fellow of Oxford University, a philanthropist and archaeologist, took over the selection and purchase of new books, and continued to do so until his death in 1935. Both Edward and Miss Cornelia contributed many books from their own libraries, and as brother and sister were well-read and well-traveled, their choice of reading material was excellent and constitutes a valuable part of the Warren Library's collection.

As interest in and use of the library grew, it could not stay confined to its limited quarters. In 1908 it moved to its present location at 479 Main Street and Warren Avenue. Occupying one-third of the ground floor of a three story building reputed to be one of the oldest in Cumberland Mills, the library continued to serve the Warren Company employees and their families, and was now open two afternoons and evenings a week—Wednesdays and Saturdays from two until six, and from seven until nine P.M. (Within more recent years it has been open daily).

A large step forward in the Warren Memorial Foundation's service to the community was taken in 1930 when the Warren Library was opened for the first time to *all* citizens of Westbrook and Cumberland Mills. Under a succession of librarians from Miss Lucy Anderson through Miss Mary Goodell, Mrs. Muriel Leighton and continuing to the appointment of Miss Nancy Hyde in 1948 the library has worked to further the education and pleasure of the people of the area. Although small in content, never at one time containing more than 8,000 to 10,000 volumes, the Warren Library has tried to keep up-to-date material, both reference and recreational, on its shelves.

1950-1951 brought the largest increase in facilities offered to the public by the Susan B. Warren Memorial Foundation. Early in 1950 the three trustees of the Foundation voted to remodel the entire building. Although of basically sound construction, it had grown seriously out of repair. The ungainly three-story structure was transformed by lowering the roof, eliminating the third floor altogether, and by lopping off the unsightly part in the rear of the building. From an extremely awkward edifice emerged a graceful example of Georgian architecture. The roof was shingled with rosy, green-blue slate. Pale gray clapboards, lightly tinged with pink, and well-spaced windows took the place of the long sheets of opaque glass that had once fronted on the street, and new windows were cut in the back where no windows had been before.

Two bright red Colonial doors now lead into three spacious, color-filled rooms, for the library, in remodeling, has taken over the whole lower floor, thereby trebling its space from one all-purpose room to embrace many departments. Now may be found a general reading room, a Technical or Reference Room which holds the circulation desk, closed stack room, combination workroom and office and a perfectly proportioned Children's Room complete with fireplace, streamlined tables and easy-to-reach shelves. Relegated to stack room and cellar, the old varnished stacks have been supplanted by wall cases throughout all the rooms. The library's efficiency has grown immeasurably.

The second floor now houses an auditorium with a seating capacity of 176 persons, 20 foot stage, dressing room, conference room and kitchen making it a center for clubs, concerts, lectures, dramatic presentations, and business meetings.

The Warren Memorial Library has completely outgrown its small beginnings of seventy-odd years ago. Combined with the new auditorium, the entire building has become an active community center. Future history should prove its worth to the public.

CHAPTER 8

CHURCHES

IT may seem strange that the village of Saccarappa with its lumbering industries and busy saw mills had no place for public worship until after the middle of the eighteenth century. However, at that time, the territory was still a part of Old Falmouth, and property owners were compelled, under the union of Church and State, to pay rates for the support of one legalized church. This church is now the First Parish Church of Portland with the Reverend Thomas Smith as pastor.

In Smith's Journal we are told that Thomas Haskell, one of the earlier settlers of Saccarappa, was dismissed in 1743 from the First Parish to join a new society in the village of New Marblehead (Windham) under the ministry of the Reverend John Wight, the first Congregational minister of that town.

Other Saccarappa settlers, including the Conants, became members of this church and remained under the pastorate of the Reverend Peter T. Smith, a son of the Reverend Smith of Portland. His home, later occupied by descendents and known as the Goodell home, is still standing on River Road. During a part of these early years, when travelling over the roads was hazardous, it is said that services were held for Saccarappa residents in the Fort, a part of the Smith home.

In April of 1765 the Fourth Parish in Falmouth was organized, and the Saccarappa parishioners were dismissed from the Windham Society to attend the new church. This was the church erected on Capisic Street, known as Parson Bradley's Church, where the Eunice Frye home is now located.

This society became the First Congregational Church of Westbrook. Among the members listed are found the well known names of early Saccarappa settlers such as Solomon, Benjamin and Thomas Haskell, Nathaniel Knight and James Johnson.

By 1829, other names from this section had been added:

Akers, Brackett, Webb, Edwards, Freeman, Barbour, Hayes and Lamb. At this time Major Archelaus Lewis, whose home was at Congin, now the residence of Joseph A. Warren, was one of the three deacons.

From the time of settlement in this section until about 1893 it seems that only the Congregational form of worship was tolerated. According to tradition the first Methodist preacher who came to preach at a home in Saccarappa barely missed being driven away by an over-zealous deacon of the Congregational faith. Soon after, in 1806, intolerance lessened and Daniel Conant conveyed to Nathaniel Hatch, Joshua Webb, James Grant and Jonathan Partridge, proprietors, a tract of land on Saco Street, near the site of the present Saco Street School, for "building a meeting house at Saccarappa." Nathaniel Hatch, who heads the list of proprietors, had, by this time, become a Methodist preacher. His home was the old brick house which is still standing on Saco Street and is occupied by Roscoe F. Libby and family.

It was not until 1817 that Nathaniel Hatch and the co-owners conveyed to Nathaniel Partridge and forty-six well known citizens of Westbrook and adjoining towns the lot which had been purchased from Conant. They agreed to erect the meeting house so long planned, and finish the lower floor entirely in pews, reserving eleven pews on the back side wall on each side of the pulpit for the use of the Methodist Episcopal members and aged persons of other denominations. The gallery was reserved for those not otherwise provided for except for four seats in the front of the gallery for the singers. The remainder of the pews were the property of the grantees and were to be assigned as the majority might determine, keeping in mind the amount of subscription. The pulpit was to be occupied "each other Sunday by the Methodists and other Sundays by the Congregationalists."

The pulpit in this Saco Street "meeting house" was filled quite regularly in the early years by Methodist ministers and by ministers of more liberal views.

The building stood on Saco Street for about thirty years and became known, derisively, as "Old Iron Works" until it was finally destroyed by fire in 1847.

WESTBROOK CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH: The first Congregational Church organized in Westbrook was the old Meetinghouse at Capisic. At that time, Westbrook was a large town, extending from the Gorham line to the Portland line. The Portland line which, as has been described, was near the old power house on Forest Avenue near Kennebec Street. An old record book of the Congregational Church in Saccarappa contains the following entry: "In consequence of letters missive issued by a committee of the First Congregational Church in Westbrook, an ecclesiastical council convened in Saccarappa Village January 3rd, Tuesday." Twenty-three members of Parson Bradley's Church had requested to be dismissed in order to form a new church. In this group were twenty-one women and two men. Of the two men, one was William Akers, father of the famous sculptor Paul Akers; the other was Brice M. Edwards, father of Lewis W. Edwards, a well known business man.

A council of ministers from nearby towns acted upon the request and, after an extended examination of the persons proposing to form the new church, the request was granted. The Second Congregational Church of Westbrook was thus formed on January 17, 1832. To the courage and perseverance of this little group the present Westbrook Congregational Church owes its existence. The Reverend Joseph Searle was called as pastor and meetings were held for two years in Small's Hall located on the second floor of a wooden block at the corner of Main and Bridge Streets where the brick block occupied by Warren Furniture Company now stands. The membership increased and all went well until one Sunday when the door of the hall was found locked. The man who went for the key came back with word that the owner of the hall, who was a Universalist, was not going to let the Orthodox Congregationalists have meetings there any longer. Then right there on the sidewalk, Mr. Searle told his people that they must have a meeting house of their own.

Land across the street on the corner of Maine and Brack-

ett Streets was obtained from Nathaniel Haskell for a new meeting house, and the church was built in 1834 at a cost of \$2300. Lumber in Saccarappa was plentiful in those days and much was donated. The stone foundation was put in by the men of the parish and funds were raised by the women members of the congregation. Mr. Searle went to Massachusetts to give a course of lectures and donated the proceeds to the building fund.

The meeting house was about the same size as the present church. It had no cellar and was a plain building with a platform in front of the two doors and a belfry in which the Paul Revere bell was installed about 1837. There were two wood stoves, one in each corner near the doors, with smoke pipes running the length of the church to the chimneys. There were box pews and, when the family was safely seated, the door was buttoned and no one could get in or out. The pews were sold to those who attended church, except a few which were owned for investment and let to those who worshipped there. The organ and choir were in the rear of the house, in what was called the "singing seats", and the congregation faced that way when standing to sing hymns. The pipe organ was built by Mr. Rufus Johnson, a member, and it is said that some of the wooden pipes were used in the organ installed at a later date. The membership numbered seventy-six in 1836. In 1837 Mr. Searle resigned for lack of financial support.

The next years brought many changes in ministers, some staying for a short time, and, at intervals, there was no regular pastor in charge. However, new members were added and church meetings were held. The records for these years show that the church was not inactive. At one meeting the articles of faith were revised, but only men could be present and, at another the matter of several members who were straying from the fold was considered. These members, it seems, were interested in Universalism, Swedenborgianism and even Spiritualism.

In 1851 the Reverend John L. Ashby became the pastor at a salary of \$600 and "two Sabbaths out". He stayed in

Westbrook for seven years and, when he resigned, gave for a reason "the high cost of living." During the years between 1865-69 the church flourished and grew in membership under the pastorate of the Reverend Joseph Danielson.

On September 2, 1869, nineteen members of the church were dismissed to form a new church at Cumberland Mills, now called the Warren Congregational Church. In this same year Harlan P. Murch was appointed as a deacon and served for fifty years. From 1871 to 1874 many changes and improvements took place under the pastorate of the Reverend S. L. Bowler. At the first yearly meeting of all the parish members, it was voted to have a Sunday School session in the morning. Later the church building, no longer called "the meeting house", was renovated. The records state: "It was rebuilt from the foundations throughout." The total cost of building a new vestry or chapel and renovating the church was \$13,478. The clock, long a landmark but recently removed, was placed in the steeple this same year, 1874, at a cost of \$600. The dedication of the remodeled church was a great event.

The Reverend Edward E. Bacon was called in 1880 and served the parish for twelve years. During his pastorate a new pipe organ was installed in 1885 at the cost of \$1000. The church and parish continued to prosper and, as the membership increased, it became apparent that a new vestry or parish house was needed. In 1891 it was voted to build an entirely new parish house, and two years later the church was lighted by electricity. While Mr. Bacon was minister weekly offerings were introduced, a board of deacons was organized and the name of the parish was changed from the Saccarappa Congregational Parish to the Westbrook Congregational Parish. The new parish house was finished and dedicated in 1894.

Disaster struck on April 1, 1898 when a fire was discovered at 2 A.M. in the church. Four pews were burned, the carpet was destroyed and smoke and water did much damage. Services were held in the parish house while repairs were being made. As to progress in hygiene, it was in this same

year that individual communion cups came into use, doing away with the use of the large cup which went from person to person.

At the turn of the twentieth century membership had risen to 188, and the first mention of deaconesses was recorded in 1901, although the deacons had been organized in 1892 as a board consisting of four members who were to serve, one, two, three, and four years respectively.

It was while the Reverend Lee Maltbie Dean, was pastor from 1904-1907, that a boy choir was introduced at an Easter service. The boys wore black gowns and white surplices which caused some unfavorable comments from the parishioners who feared the church was showing Episcopalian tendencies. The first printed order of service was used in the church in 1906.

The longest pastorate in the history of the church was that of the Reverend Dorr A. Hudson who came to the church in 1910 and remained for fifteen years. During this period many new members were admitted to the church, the pastor's salary was raised to \$2,000 annually and it was voted to hold the morning service at eleven o'clock, a custom which has since prevailed.

Another bad fire caused much damage in the parish house on January 26, 1926, which necessitated the installation of a new boiler, and the church was without heat until March. Meanwhile the Westbrook Methodist people kindly offered the use of their church which was much appreciated.

The first parsonage owned by the church was built in 1928 on Monroe Avenue and is the parsonage at the present time. It was sponsored and entirely paid for by the efforts of the Ladies' Guild. The attendance at the annual meeting of the church in 1929 was the largest in its history, and at the next meeting in 1930 the name of the church was changed to Westbrook Congregational Church, since there was no need of the "Second" as the first church on Capisic Street no longer existed. The uniting of the church and parish had long been considered and, on April 21, 1931, the church and parish were incorporated as one. The 100th Anniversary was

observed in 1932 under the direction of the Reverend Ray Gibbons, with an appropriate program.

In the summer of 1941 during the pastorate of Edwin R. Carter a major remodelling and redecorating project was started. The old organ was taken out, thus changing the complete arrangement of the chancel, and a new Memorial organ was installed. The platform was extended several feet to the front, giving room for choir stalls and the new organ console. New chancel furniture, consisting of a communion table, lectern, and pulpit of mahogany, was added. The walls were painted white and the pews white with mahogany trim, thus reverting to the original decorating scheme. Appropriate light fixtures, which were once used in the Portland Public Library, were installed. Red velvet hangings were used at the windows and red carpeting on the floor. Steps from the center aisle were made to lead to the communion table behind which is a dorsal of red brocade. Another memorial gift of chimes with an amplifier was dedicated on January 1, 1950.

METHODIST CHURCH: According to tradition Methodism made its first appearance in Westbrook, then known as Saccarappa, in 1799, when Robert Yallalee, a circuit rider, came and preached in Mr. Conant's house on Park Hill. From this time on the place was visited by itinerant preachers from time to time. Services were held at private houses and sometimes in the schoolhouse when the hostility of enemies permitted. Men of the Methodist faith were responsible for the building of the first meeting house at Saccarappa. This building stood on Saco Street, as has been mentioned, and was later known as "Old Iron Works".

In 1814 John Adams formed the first Methodist Class here and by 1823 there were 187 members. The following year the preacher, James Jacques, "disposed" of many of them. It is said that he would ride up to a member's door and declare him excommunicated. In 1825 only 96 members were reported but the membership soon came back to its original mark, under the leadership of men of power. Ap-

parently all did not run smoothly at the meetinghouse on Saco Street and the Methodist members finally withdrew to build a vestry on Main Street where the home of Mr. Edwin Sutermeister now stands.

In 1833 the vestry was enlarged and called Wesley Chapel. By 1841 the society had outgrown Wesley Chapel and a larger church was built on the present Church Street, just beyond the Woodman house. From this building Church Street derives its name. The Chapel was later drawn by oxen to the corner of Warren and Cumberland Avenues in the winter of 1859. There it was converted into a block of dwelling houses and used for many years. After the new church was built there was a long struggle to pay for it. The pastor in 1848, John Hobart, raised the money to finish payments, contributing personally \$200 which he earned by giving his evenings to teaching music, and at a time when the minister's salary was only about \$300 a year. This church was used until it was destroyed by fire in 1864.

For two years the Methodists worshipped in the Universalist Church until, in January 1866, steps were taken towards the erection of a new church. A lot was secured, money raised, and the building was started. By November the vestry of the new church was completed and the congregation was able to move there from Warren Hall where later services had been held. The church was erected and dedicated in 1867 under the leadership of the Reverend A. W. Pottle, during whose pastorate of three years a revival took place and the church membership was more than doubled. In the year 1889 the present parsonage was purchased and the church building underwent extensive repairs. The rededication of the church took place on December 5th with several former pastors present. The following year, after a period of twenty-three years, the Reverend Mr. Pottle was re-appointed to Westbrook, to remain for over four years.

In 1892 the bell and organ were purchased for the church at a cost, installation included, of \$504 for the bell and \$1350 for the organ. The purchase of the bell was made possible by the gift of \$300 from the late Mrs. Maria

Plummer. She also contributed generously to the organ fund, as did Mr. John J. Knowlton, founder of the Knowlton Machine Company. In spite of this extra expense the debt on church and parsonage was considerably diminished and all claims paid in full for the year. The Westbrook organization, according to its records, owes a greater debt of gratitude to the Reverend A. W. Pottle than to any other pastor in its history.

During the pastorate of the Reverend Everett L. Farnsworth the church boasted the largest Bible Class in the State of Maine. Several boys who received their first religious training in the Westbrook parish later became Methodist ministers. Notable among them was Bishop Edgar Blake.

Three annual conference sessions have been held in Westbrook, one in 1869, again in 1893 and 1917. The first of these is still listed in the Maine Conference Year Book as meeting at Saccarappa.

THE FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH IN WESTBROOK:
The Scotch Hill Sunday School meeting in the kitchen of Mrs. Roger Hilton marked the genesis of the First Baptist Church in Westbrook. Nearly all the members of this group were Scotch folk who had come to work in the Westbrook Manufacturing Company Gingham Mills about 1886. When the numbers attending outgrew the capacity of Mrs. Hilton's kitchen, the Sunday School transferred its meetings to the Scotchmen's Football Clubroom. Subsequent moves were to the old Grand Army Hall on Bridge Street and then to the Odd Fellows Hall.

A number of the attendants of the Scotch Hill Sunday School united with the Free Street Baptist Church in Portland. Dr. A. T. Dunn, D.D., Pastor of that Church, gave active and efficient help to the Saccarappa work and baptized many converts in the Presumpscot River. A dwelling house which stood on the site now occupied by the Baptist Church was acquired and partitions were taken down to allow room for a worship service and the Sunday School sessions. This dwelling was soon moved off the lot, a Church

edifice was built at an approximate cost of \$10,000, including the lot, and was dedicated on October 28, 1888.

Among the early leaders in the life and work of the Church were Deacons N. R. Martin, M.D., Roger Hilton, Donald Wight, Harvey Bishop, and Joseph B. Eaton with James Boyd serving as Treasurer. Early Church Clerks were C. A. L. Treadwell, Robert Hunter, Edward C. Fogg, W. N. Chapman, Joseph M. Burgh, and Robert Mowat. Judge James H. Tolman who came to Westbrook in 1893 was a leader in the Church and Sunday School for a quarter of a century. The fluctuation of business conditions in the city was reflected in the movements of population and consequent variations in the size and prosperity of the Church.

In 1923 the organization was incorporated under the name of the First Baptist Church in Westbrook, Maine, and the home at number 65 Stroudwater Street was purchased for a parsonage.

The spiritual vitality and vigor of the Church is indicated by the number of men it has sent forth into the Christian ministry, George McCombe, Paul E. Alden, Harvey H. Bishop and Arthur L. Maye. Mr. Bishop served for some years as District Secretary for the United Baptist Convention of Maine. In 1951, Mr. Maye was chosen Director of Christian Education for the Oregon Baptist Convention.

In May 1930 the men of the Church began an enterprise which consumed many man-hours of toil. A large group of men gave their services for this project which was the excavation of a basement under the Church edifice. Active among them in leadership were Leo Bixby, Charles L. Stokes, Leslie Timberlake, and Perley S. Plummer.

On December 14, 1947 the Church edifice was badly damaged by a night fire, but the greater part of the structure was saved by the efficient work of the Westbrook Fire Department. Services were held temporarily in the Universalist Church building while the Baptist Meeting House was being repaired and redecorated.

After the fire the original high-peaked sanctuary was altered by the installation of a lower flat ceiling. Expenses

for repairs and redecorating came to more than \$9,000 with an indebtedness which was entirely repaid by January 1951.

Rededication services held June 13, 1948 included addresses by Reverend Burton H. Tilton, pastor here from 1923-1945, and Reverend Elmer N. Bentley, Director of Christian Education and Evangelism for the United Baptist Convention of Maine.

UNIVERSALIST CHURCH: In 1821 Universalism first came to Portland and ten years later Westbrook Seminary, known today as Westbrook Junior College, was founded. It was located at Stevens Plains, at that time a part of the town of Westbrook.

Later this section was set off to form the town of Deering, later the city of Deering, and finally was annexed to Portland. Some of the history of the seminary is included here because it is so closely connected with the growth of Universalism in Westbrook.

The Seminary had its birth in a resolution passed by the Kennebec Association of Universalists at its annual session at Greene, Maine, on September 29, 1830.

The convention provided for a meeting at Westbrook to take into consideration the matter of starting a Classical School or Seminary to work out a plan for the same, and to take measures for accomplishing the object. There was considerable discussion at the meeting as to location. Waterville, Winthrop, and Westbrook were named but, finally it was decided to make the school as accessible as possible to Massachusetts and New Hampshire, and it was located in Westbrook.

A meeting was held at Stevens Plains on October 27, 1830 with Daniel Winslow of Portland as secretary. It was voted to adopt a constitution and petition the next Legislature for an act of incorporation. The petition was granted, trustees appointed, and Westbrook Seminary was incorporated in 1831.

It was one of the first institutions in the United States to offer co-educational training and, at the time of its opening,

The Portland Eastern Argus commented that "males and females will be admitted to equal privileges."

The first term commenced on June 9, 1834 with the Reverend Samuel Brimblecom as its first principal. Mr. Brimblecom resigned in the fall of 1836, and, for the next nineteen years, some six or seven different men served as principals of the Seminary.

The school had been closed for several terms when, in 1853, the Reverend J. P. Weston became principal. His coming gave the school new life, and it began to show permanent strength. It was chiefly through his untiring efforts that money was raised for building Goddard Hall. Reverend Weston resigned in the fall of 1858 and, in 1861, Reverend S. H. McCollister became principal and the school continued to prosper.

In 1869 Reverend J. C. Snow was called as Principal. Hersey Hall and a dining hall were built during his administration.

In 1871 Stevens Plains and Westbrook Seminary became part of the new town of Deering, and the Seminary found itself located in the new town of Deering. Some twenty-eight years later this town was in turn annexed to Portland. In 1925 the name was changed to Westbrook Junior College and it became an institution exclusively for women.

In the early years of the nineteenth century about forty members of Parson Bradley's Stroudwater Congregational Church "withdrew" because of Universalist tendencies. Under the leadership of Nathaniel Hatch, a lay preacher, the Reverend Mr. Soldier was called to preach in the free meetinghouse on Saco Street, the building later known as "Old Iron Works". It was here that the Reverend John Greenleaf Adams, at that time a student at Westbrook Seminary, delivered his first sermon in 1832.

About 1830, sponsors, called proprietors, were secured, to build a new meeting house. This building was constructed on the corner of Brighton and Stevens Avenues, Portland on the site where the Roosevelt School of Portland now stands, the proprietors being repaid by the selling of pews.

Members from Saccarappa village, however, began to complain about the long distance to the new place of worship, and the idea grew to build a Universalist Church in the heart of the town. In 1840, under the leadership of the Reverend Zenas Thompson, the Upper Main Street edifice was erected and dedicated on December twenty-third.

Universalism is a fighting faith. Never was this more forcefully demonstrated than when a large group from Mr. Bradley's church tried to break up the Universalist meetings in the old Main Street building.

It is said there was not any carpet on the floor nor cushions in the pews and, to top it all, a five hundred dollar debt. The vestry was not finished until wanted for a grammar school eight or nine years later. About one-third of the pew owners were from out of town, with Pride's Corner, Gorham, Stroudwater, and Scarborough being represented. The pulpit, which is still in use in the present church, was given by the Ladies' Circle.

There were years of inactivity with only occasional services until 1883 when the church was open every other Sunday. The following year, 1884, the Reverend Ouillen H. Shinn was called to Deering and Saccarappa and he began to agitate for the building of a new church to be centrally located to accommodate those living in Cumberland Mills. Construction of the present church was started in 1887 and, in 1888, a great three day celebration of dedication was held.

Much credit is due Mr. Shinn for his untiring efforts to re-establish and build the church. One-half of the land on which the building stands was donated by Mr. John Cloudman and his wife, who, with other women of the society, worked steadily to make possible the building and furnishings.

It was in 1904 that the Reverend Harry E. Townsend was called to the pastorate and remained with the church for over forty years. Under his leadership the church grew and prospered. Dr. Townsend was not only the pastor of the church but a man active in all community and civic affairs.

ADVENT CHRISTIAN CHURCH: Previous to 1886 there were no regular Advent meetings held in Westbrook, although, as early as 1840, the Reverend William Miller, a Baptist preacher and founder of Adventism, had lectured in Portland and believers in his teachings came to Westbrook and Windham to hold meetings. The first services were held in Mr. Isaac Lavery's barn on Brown Street with later services being held occasionally in Red Men's Hall until 1886.

In this year the Advent Christian Parish was organized and incorporated. Under the leadership of the Reverend William Mitchell of Kennebunk the organization raised funds to purchase a lot of land and build a church. This building was dedicated in December of 1886.

January 1, 1888 the Reverend Orvin H. Wallace began work as the first regular pastor. On the twentieth of that month the Advent Christian Church was organized with twenty members. Under the leadership of Mr. Wallace the church grew rapidly.

Many improvements were made during the pastorate of Reverend J. A. Cargile, a missionary from the South, and the church was rededicated in 1905. The Reverend T. W. Kennington, during his pastorate from 1910-1912, designed the church tower and did much to raise funds for it.

At this time the Reverend James A. Nichols was elected as pastor and the tower was built, stained glass windows were added and a new organ was installed. He resigned to become editor of the denominational paper "The World's Crisis."

The parish house, built at a cost of \$5,600, was added during the ministry of the Reverend Augustus B. Blanchard who served the church for eight years. The funds were raised by the Ladies' Circle with the help of the Quindecim Club of young women. These two organizations have been active in the church work since their organization.

THE FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH: The first Danish family to locate in Westbrook was Mr. Laust C. Horlick, his

wife and four children, who arrived in Portland in 1873. Mr. Horlick came to Westbrook and secured work in the Haskell Silk Mill. The Horlicks brought with them the old family Bible, Luther's Postil, and their hymn books and, feeling the need of spiritual guidance, they called together other local Lutheran families for religious services. In 1876 the pastor of the First Lutheran Church of Portland was secured and services were held in Westbrook nearly every Sunday afternoon.

As the increased attendance made the home too small to accommodate these meetings the people saw the need of organizing a congregation. On November 2, 1882, at a meeting held in the home of Mads Nielsen on Reservoir Street, the First Danish Evangelical Lutheran Church of Westbrook, Maine, was organized under the guidance of Reverend K. D. Faegre. The congregation first met in the basement of the Warren Congregational Church on Sunday afternoons and later met in the Advent Christian Church. Through the efforts of the Ladies' Circle, which was organized in 1891, five hundred dollars was raised and the land for the site of the present church building on the corner of Main and School Streets was purchased from John E. Warren. Most of the money for the construction of the church was collected from the Danish people of Westbrook. On New Year's day, 1893, the church was dedicated, and all services were conducted in the Danish language until 1905 when one English service a month was held.

In 1908 the parsonage was purchased and remodeled. It was this same year that the young people presented the church with a new reed organ.

Because of growth of the congregation it became necessary to enlarge the church in 1913 by adding twenty feet to the front, putting the steeple to one side, and the church was redecorated both inside and out. The Young People's Society installed a pipe organ in 1923, and, this same year, a foundation to the church was built with the basement finished for use as a Sunday School. In March of 1928 the Society, with the aid of the Girls' Club, installed the church bell.

From 1934 to 1946 many changes took place in the church. A new constitution was adopted in May 1934 which first gave the women of the church the right to vote. At the annual meeting in 1942 it was decided to abolish the services in the Danish language and use the English language exclusively for Sunday services. Another change took place when, in 1946, the name of the church was officially changed to Trinity Lutheran Church.

The parish was privileged from the nineteenth to the twenty-fourth of June, 1951 to be host to the fifty-fifth Annual Convention of the United Evangelical Lutheran Church, a national Lutheran organization. This was the first time such a large group was ever entertained in Westbrook.

WARREN CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH: It is very difficult to separate Warren Church and Warren Parish for, even before they ceased to function as such, probably most people thought in terms of Warren Church. Warren Church is the Covenant members; Warren Parish is that organization of church members and non-church members who made possible the very existence of a church in Cumberland Mills.

Mr. Samuel Denis Warren, Sr., original owner of the mills which bear his name, was ever an interested and helpful friend of the people of the village, and it is not without good reason that the two organizations here united bear the official names of Warren Church and Warren Parish.

Warren Parish

Previous to 1865 there were no regular religious services held in the Village of Cumberland Mills. Those families who were interested in such services were accustomed to unite in worship with the Churches of Saccarappa. However, under the care and leadership of Rev. Joseph Danielson, then pastor of the Congregational Church at Saccarappa, a prayer meeting was organized in the village, with meetings held in the homes of those interested and in rooms temporarily prepared for their use.

On March 1, 1866 there was established an organization of women, called the Cumberland Mills Ladies' Sewing

Society, for the avowed object of "raising funds toward furnishing the first Protestant Church edifice which may be erected in the village of Cumberland Mills." Just what these women did at this time to raise money, we do not know, but since Fairs, Suppers, and Strawberry Festivals are recorded a few years later, it is probably safe to assume that such events were among those participated in by this early group.

Interest in things religious, which had been started by the house to house prayer meetings and furthered by the Ladies' Sewing Society, was more fully developed by the Revival which visited the churches of Saccarappa in the spring of 1867, though no particular details are available.

The village was growing because the paper mill was growing; new families were establishing homes and rearing their children; and those who were religiously minded realized the need for a near-by House of Worship.

In July 1868, Warren Parish was legally organized, and plans for a Church were under way. Mr. S. D. Warren, Sr., gave the lot on which the church was to be placed, and pledged \$5000 toward the building, which it was thought would cover half the cost; if it did not, Mr. Warren promised to match dollar for dollar with the people any additional cost. Work was immediately started. The building actually did cost more than the \$10,000 originally estimated, and, as agreed, Mr. Warren came forward with an amount equal to half the extra cost.

A Mr. Pelham was the architect who designed the church, and the outside boards were so placed as to simulate stone, the building being Gothic in structure.

One of Mr. Warren's contributions to the church was the Rose Window which he purchased in Italy and had shipped to Cumberland Mills.

The Cumberland Mills Ladies' Sewing Society, which for the past few years had been anticipating such a project, immediately became affiliated with Warren Parish and were of immeasurable assistance in creating interest in and raising funds for the new church.

On July 8, 1869, the new church building was dedicated

(the building here referred to being the main part, housing the auditorium only), Reverend Elnathan E. Strong of Waltham, Massachusetts, preaching the dedicatory sermon. Before this, however, the services of Reverend Elijah Kellog, well-known author, particularly of boys' books, had been secured, and he began his labors by preaching in the vestry of the unfinished church building on the last Sunday in May, 1869.

Warren Church

On Sept. 30, 1869, Warren Church was organized. It was composed of twenty-three members, nineteen by letter from the Westbrook Congregational Church, and four by letter from the Central Church of Portland.

Although "Congregational" did not appear in the name of the church, it has always been Congregational in its organization and affiliation.

When the church was built there was no organ, but in 1872, largely through the efforts of the Ladies' Sewing Society, a pipe organ was purchased and installed.

The clock in the church steeple, which has become a landmark, was placed there in 1877, and was made possible by public contributions.

In 1880, a parsonage was built by Mr. S. D. Warren, the use of which was granted to the minister of the parish, without charge.

By 1885 the church was not large enough to accommodate the worshipers and the various church activities, so work was begun to enlarge it by adding the Annex. This provided an upstairs room for the Sunday School and a kitchen for the ladies, besides the large room opening from the auditorium. At this time new carpets were laid, and electric lights were installed. Also a new and better-toned bell was purchased, the old bell being given to the chapel at Sebago Lake. In the expense of this enlargement, Mr. S. D. Warren and his partner, Mr. Mortimer B. Mason, shared equally with the parish, the cost being about \$8,000. Perhaps it might be noted here that Mr. Warren never became a member of Warren Church, his home being in Boston where he

was a member of Mt. Vernon Church. Mr. Mason, also of Boston, was a member of Old South Church. So far as is known the round window on the stairway of the Annex has no particular story, but it is a rather beautiful window and probably receives very little notice by the people because of its inconspicuous position.

In 1905 the ladies purchased new pew cushions.

In 1910 a new steam heating plant was installed to replace the old hot air system. The building was resingled, and to accommodate the growing Sunday School, the lower vestry was renovated by laying a hard wood floor, enlarging the windows, and putting in a steel ceiling.

In 1919 the platform was enlarged by removing some pews, the present rail built, and rail curtains hung. In 1923 the interior of the Church was redecorated, a new lighting system was installed, and a steam pipe line was run from the mill to the church and the parsonage. At this time the ladies purchased a new carpet for the Auditorium.

Since the organ was first placed in the church, the power had been furnished by "blow boys," the power at times being irregular. During 1924 an electric motor was installed which made the "blow boys" no longer necessary.

The Upper Vestry had not been used for some years and in order to make additional room for various meetings, this was redecorated in 1924, a new floor was laid, a fireplace built, and a kitchenette fitted and equipped, the kitchenette being provided by Craigie Class, and the room itself by the John E. Warren Bible Class. After the installation of the steam from the mill the coal bins were no longer necessary, and in 1925 they were turned into a kindergarten room.

The present entrance was added in 1926, the spire was repaired, the slate roof was placed, and the entire building repainted, all at considerable expense. At the same time the grounds were landscaped, the landscaping and the new entrance adding much to the present attractiveness of the church.

Until 1938 the walls of the auditorium had been painted in design, but now they were redone entirely plain, with the

beams painted dark to match the woodwork. In 1938 a hardwood floor was laid, and the ladies purchased runners for the aisles.

In 1941 the outside was again repainted.

Until 1942 the S. D. Warren Co. had furnished the parsonage free of charge and had also, since the installation of the mill steam, contributed that. However, in this year they offered to sell the parsonage to the Church at a very reasonable figure and it was voted to purchase it, and, since its purchase, it has been repaired and painted on the outside. The women have redecorated most of the interior.

In 1943 Warren Church and Warren Parish ceased to be, the two organizations becoming incorporated as Warren Congregational Church on May 11th.

Memorial chimes were installed and dedicated on April 13, 1947, and in 1950 the auditorium of the church was redecorated, a pulpit and lectern installed and a new memorial organ dedicated. The funds for the purchase of the organ were contributed by friends and members of the Church in memory of deceased relatives and friends.

PRIDE'S CORNER UNION CHURCH: Seeing the need of a Sunday School and Church at Pride's Corner, the Westbrook and Gorham Sunday School Association under the leadership of Mr. C. E. Willis, now deceased, and Mr. George Wilson, members of the Westbrook Baptist Church, suggested holding a meeting in Mrs. John Addison Clark's little store at the corner.

On August 1, 1909 with thirty-four people present, the meeting was held as suggested and the Pride's Corner Union Bible School was organized and the following officers elected: Mr. C. E. Willis, Superintendent; Mr. Walter E. Webber, Assistant Superintendent; Miss Neta J. Bailey, Secretary; and Miss Wilhelming Scholl, Treasurer. In connection with the Sunday School, plans were made for a preaching service to be held each Sunday with ministers from the different denominations supplying.

Upon completion of some repair work at the Pride's

Corner School House, permission was received from the city of Westbrook to hold meetings there. Services were held here until the school board asked the group to vacate the building. The people then conceived the idea of raising money in various ways for a church building. The first regular minister was the Reverend Charles Washburn of the Nazarene Church of South Portland who remained for one year. Next came Mr. Alexander Duncan of Portland, a Baptist licensed minister who served for seven years.

Mr. Duncan had become interested in the community and encouraged the people to build a church. In order to buy land, it was necessary for the group to be incorporated, and six of the people of the community, with Mr. Duncan, met in Mr. Elder's law office in Portland where the Pride's Corner Union Church Society was organized. Next a lot was purchased from Mr. Hugh Warren of Portland for one hundred dollars, the money being raised from fairs, suppers, entertainments and personal donations of from five to fifty dollars.

In 1914 a contest was sponsored by the merchants of Portland, through the Press Herald, the purpose being to help churches and welfare organizations. Everyone young and old became interested and the Pride's Corner Union Church Society placed second in the contest receiving five hundred dollars. With this and the money already accumulated, the community was able to build the church free from debt and, on June 15, 1915 dedication services were held.

A series of Revival Meetings were held in 1924 under the leadership of Reverend E. A. Davis of the Baptist denomination and several new members joined the church. As the organization was only a Society, it was voted to reorganize as the Pride's Corner Union Church with a new set of By-Laws and Articles of Faith.

After about six years, the attendance not being large, it was hard to pay a pastor, and Kenneth Hawkes, a local boy who had been working in the Sunday School and was very much interested in church work, told his grandmother, Mrs. John Clark, he believed he could write a sermon which he

did, and delivered it with much effect. He occupied the pulpit for a few Sundays free of charge, thus helping the church financially and also helping himself to get a start in Christian work. The church since then has continued to prosper and at present employs a full-time minister.

HIGHLAND LAKE UNION CHURCH: As early as 1816 a meeting house stood on Abbott Hill in Falmouth near the Oliver Hardy Farm. This road, which used to connect Abbott Hill with the Duck Pond Road, has long been discontinued. It is known that the Woodburys, who were among the earliest settlers in this section of Westbrook, worshipped in the Abbott Hill Meeting House. Sometime after 1838 this meeting house was moved to the corner of the Mast Road and the Duck Pond Road where it was known as the Free Will Baptist Church.

It remained at this location until about 1857 when the church building was again placed on skids and drawn by oxen down through the fields back of the homes of Nathaniel and James Gowen, across the bridge, and up the hill to a new location beside the school house. There it served the neighborhood faithfully and well for over forty years until the time came for extensive repairs.

In 1904 the newly organized Highland Lake Parish Society bought a lot on the state highway, had the old church razed, and, using as much lumber as possible from it, built the present church building. The plan for the new church was drawn by Mr. Alden Verrill of Portland with the labor, money and materials donated by parishoners.

The building was completed in 1907 and furnished by the Ladies Aid Society. Until 1913 parishoners from a section of Falmouth and Highland Lake held union services here.

For several years there were intermittant church services until 1928 when the Reverend Augustus B. Blanchard, the retired Advent minister, revived a community interest in regular services. He remained the pastor until his death in 1950, giving twenty-two years of service to the community.

Through Mr. Blanchard's efforts the church grew and

prospered. A large Sunday School was built up and the Sunday School library was expanded. In 1938 a bell was purchased for the church belfry, and money was donated by Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Phelps to furnish a classroom in memory of their son.

Since 1946 there had been a need for more classrooms to accommodate the increasing Sunday School attendance and, in 1949, the newly formed Men's Club donated time and labor to renovate the basement. Besides the new class rooms a kitchen was built and a new furnace installed. Funds for this project were raised by The Ladies Aid Society and The Guild, a group of the younger women.

Mr. Blanchard did not live to see the completion of the work in which he was so vitally interested but, on June 24, 1951, the new Sunday School room was dedicated in his memory.

ST. HYACINTHE PARISH: At an early date many Canadian families of the Catholic faith were attracted to Westbrook by the industries, and one of the first Catholic families known to have settled here was that of John Graham who came here in 1854. An agent of the S. D. Warren Mills was instrumental in bringing to Westbrook several Catholic families from Portneuf, Quebec. Then, too, around 1854 the building of the Grand Trunk railroad employed many young Canadians. Older families of Westbrook claim that a number of young men were called from Canada to clear up the Presumpscot River after a cloud burst followed by a flood, had caused large portions of the bank to fall into the river. Among those young men called by this emergency was Regis Labrecque and although he returned to Canada after completing this work, he later returned here, married and raised a family of thirteen children.

The original Catholic settlers had to go to Portland for Sunday Mass and ministrations of religion. They walked and usually carried their shoes in their hands a large part of the way to save them. When they were to take Holy Communion, they carried a lunch along and had their breakfast on the way back.

It is claimed that in the late 1860's mass was celebrated in Cumberland Mills in the house of John Brown, (the brick house below the track near Warren Block at Cumberland Mills). Quite probably Father DeRose of the Cathedral Staff was the celebrant. It is known that on July 21, 1872 Father Pensardin made a visit from Biddeford and said Mass in the Warren Block at the corner of Main and Bridge Streets.

The Catholics continued to increase in number and in 1873 Brigham Hall, almost opposite Bridge Street, was leased and furnished as a chapel. October 15, 1877 a parcel of land on Brown Street large enough to accommodate a church was purchased with funds collected and made over to the Diocese. Father Bogartz, a Belgian who had won the degree of Licentiate at the University of Louvain, was charged with the care of the Westbrook Catholics. He began to build the church which was used in 1879 although it was not completed. The fast growing Catholic population made it necessary to increase the size of the church even before it was finished and an additional sanctuary and sacristy were planned and built. This church was dedicated August 22, 1879.

Now the need for a Parochial School was felt and, in 1881, a parcel of land on Walker Street was bought from The Westbrook Manufacturing Company for a school. At the same time land was also acquired on Stroudwater Street for a cemetery which was blessed by Bishop Healy in September 1884. A new rectory was built in 1883 at a cost of five thousand dollars which, at the time, was the envy of the Diocese. A school was built on the lot purchased from the Westbrook Manufacturing Company and lay teachers were employed to teach and train the children.

In 1887 Bishop Healy blessed the church bell which was first rung on Easter Sunday. This bell, weighing more than two thousand pounds, now hangs in the belfry of the New St. Hyacinthe Church calling parishioners to worship every Sunday morning. Other improvements made at this time were a tower with a tall spire, tracery, a pulpit, new pews and altars.

To replace the little school on Walker Street a brick school was built in 1893 and in September of the following year was ready for use. At this time the Sisters of Presentation of Mary came from St. Hyacinthe in Canada to take charge. November 11, 1900 the school bell, which was donated by Father Decelles, was blessed by him and is still in use today to call the children to their classes.

The English speaking Catholics were separated from St. Hyacinthe in May 1916 and, together with the missions of Gorham and Windham, formed the parish of St. Mary's which left St. Hyacinthe with five hundred and ninety families. It was in 1926 when the Dana Warp Mills ceded a large lot of land at the corner of Brown Street for the cost of removing two houses which stood there. At this time plans were being made for a new church and this site was intended for that purpose.

In 1940 old gold and silver contributed by the parishioners, with Maine tourmalines cut to measure, were sent to France to be made into an ostensorium and was added to the possessions of the church. It was fortunate that the work was finished in time to be shipped from Paris before the Germans invaded that city. This same year a fifth mass was added because of crowded conditions.

After years of planning and preparation the new church building was now an actuality and, on May 24, 1941 the contract for its construction was signed. In September the Most Reverend Joseph E. McCarthy, in the presence of thirty priests set the cornerstone of the new church and the Reverend Father Dourin, O.P., of Lewiston, preached an eloquent sermon.

On October 18, 1942 the last masses and vespers were celebrated in the old church and after vespers, the Blessed Sacrament was carried in a solemn procession of the whole parish to the new church where it would henceforth reside. The following Sunday, October 25th, masses and vespers were first celebrated in the new church. On September 19, 1943, the Most Reverend Bishop McCarthy blessed the church and erected canonically the Stations of the Cross and

administered the Sacrament of Confirmation to a class of one hundred seventy candidates. Thus the work on the church continued. By January 15, 1950 the House of the Lord was ready and early masses were celebrated in the basement chapel. A solemn High Mass was sung by pastor Msgr. Philippe E. Desjardins. At three o'clock in the afternoon Bishop Daniel J. Feeney blessed the finished church and the Stations of the Cross. The sermon for the occasion was delivered by the Reverend François Drouin, O.P., of Lewiston.

On January 22, 1950 solemn mass was again celebrated, a most happy occasion for the pastor Msgr. Philippe E. Desjardins who was giving thanks for fifty years of sacerdotal life of which the major part, almost thirty-four years, has been spent as pastor of St. Hyacinthe.

ST. MARY'S PARISH: The first Catholic Church in Westbrook was St. Hyacinthe's, attended by both French and English-speaking parishioners under the charge of a French pastor. By 1916 the seating capacity of the church was beginning to be overtaxed and it was decided that the number of English-speaking parishioners was sufficient to warrant a parish of their own. Accordingly St. Mary's Parish was formed, the division being on lines of language only, all English-speaking parishioners to attend St. Mary's regardless of geographical location. This included Gorham, Windham and Standish as well as Westbrook. The adjoining properties of Mr. John Watson and Mr. Frank Leighton on Main Street were purchased and, after extensive renovations, the Watson home became, and still is, the rectory.

Reverend William J. Culbert, pastor at Benedicta, Maine, was the first pastor and served until January 1933 when he was transferred to Gardiner. Father Culbert was assisted by two enthusiastic groups of workers, The Holy Name Society composed of men of the parish, and the St. Mary's Women's Club for many years under the able leadership of Miss Mary E. Doyle. The first mass of the new parish was said in the Star Theatre. Services were held in Speirs' Hall nearby on

Main Street while the church building was being constructed. The first floor of the new building was to be used for church services and the second floor was to serve as a parish hall. This church was dedicated in 1917 and Sisters of Mercy came from Portland each Sunday to teach Sunday School.

On land purchased at the corner of Speirs Street a modern convent with living quarters for the nuns and a private chapel for their use was built.

The Reverend John J. Finn, the present pastor, succeeded Father Culbert in 1933. The parish has grown from one hundred twenty-five to the present number of three hundred sixty families.

CHAPTER 9

OLD HOUSES

WITHIN the present boundaries of the city may be found several old houses dating back to the days of pioneer settlement. Many houses still retain most of their natural design and others have been restored to preserve the original architecture. Many more have been greatly altered in appearance through the years but the basic structure still remains. These houses, scattered over a large territory, are in themselves a record of the families, many of whom have descendents living in the city today, who were active in the early development of the town and city.

SACCARAPPA: The house at 89 Conant Street, on the top of the hill, has for twenty years been the home of Percy Conant. It was built and occupied by Captain John Brackett, a Revolutionary soldier. The time of its erection has not been traced but perhaps the most interesting feature of this old home is the wall paper on the front hall. Of quaint Chinese design, it is known to have been on the walls for 125 years.

In the early days of Portland, Moses Pearson, one of the most active and enterprising men of his day, became one of its most prominent and wealthy business men. Though he had no sons, he had six beautiful daughters, all of whom married very well. In a deed recorded in 1771 Moses Pearson gave to each daughter "one right or share in the common and undivided land of Falmouth—to Elizabeth Wise one share which I bought of Aaron Plumer in 1729." Judging from later land transfers, this tract was bounded roughly by the Presumpscot River above the falls, the town lines of Windham and Gorham, and the present New Gorham Road. Here Joseph and Elizabeth Wise settled and built a house approximately on the site of Ellie Bixby's home on Conant Street near the old canal.

Of the several homes built on Conant Street by members of descendents of the Wise family, one at 161 Conant Street, now owned and occupied by Jane Bickford a direct descen-

dent, was built in 1803 by Samuel Lary on the site of an earlier dwelling. An interesting feature of this charming old house is an original and unusually fine iron fireplace frame. Among the family treasures is the bible from the First Parish Church of Portland which was threatened by fire in 1775 when Mowatt attacked Portland. Remaining from the library of either Dr. Burney or Dr. Wise, both members of the family, there is a gem of a medical book. Simply to read a page from "An Abridgment of Etmullerus's Practice of Physic" would make a person forget his troubles if not cure his ills. Here, too, may be seen an old time Quasha cup. A drink of water made bitter by standing in this wooden goblet was believed to have great medicinal value.

Miss Bickford recalls her aunt, Jane Lary born in 1803, telling that, when she was a small girl and Parson Bradley called, her mother would give her a decanter and send her to have it filled at a rum shop located at the top of the hill on Conant Street, about opposite where the Lord house now stands. At the roadside just above the Lary house stood the shoemaker's shop of Moses Lary more than a century ago. The buildings where he tanned the leather for his shoes were located well back from the road across the way.

Another home of members of the Wise family is that on the New Gorham Road long owned and occupied by the late Mr. and Mrs. Howard Parker, recently purchased by Randall Rich. Undoubtedly this house was built well before 1800 but the exact date is not known. A deed recorded in 1809 shows that Ammi R. Wise transferred to Anna V. Wise, a spinster, property described in later deeds as being bounded easterly by the canal and southerly by the new road from Saccarappa to Gorham. In 1833 Anna V. Wise sold the place to Noah Nason as one of the four pieces of property that made up his large farm. In 1859 it was purchased by Leonard C. Quinby, and has remained in possession of the family until the recent death of his granddaughter Mrs. Howard Parker.

This fine old house, whose ell was a later addition, still has the three original fireplaces which furnished the only

heat even eighty years ago. Its windows, with some of the original small panes of wavy glass, have inside wooden shutters. Pumpkin pine boards twenty-five inches wide form the wainscoting about the rooms and marks of the hand saw may still be seen the length of some of the wide floor boards. The front door has an immense key but the most unusual feature is a small, narrow, covered tin box, measuring three and one-half by seven inches which fits down inside the top of what was the rear door before the addition of an ell. This provided a secret hiding place for money and other valuables.

Inside the sturdy barn may be seen the wooden pins and hand forged nails used in its construction. The small building standing across the driveway and at the rear of the house is said to have been the first private school of Westbrook. According to tradition the original homesteader had a crippled daughter for whom he built the little school house and, if true, one wonders if Anna V. Wise, who never married may have been a crippled daughter of Ammi R. Wise.

The Warren house located at 108 Longfellow Street, (formerly known as Beaver Dam Road, was built some time prior to 1805 by Enoch Freeman. The latter, as seen from a deed recorded in 1785, received from his father, also Enoch Freeman, sixty acres of land with all the buildings thereon "in consideration of thirteen years service performed for me." By another deed recorded in 1805 it is shown that Enoch sold all this property to his brother Samuel for \$1000, the reason being clearly stated: "to secure payment to Samuel Freeman and Jonathan Bryant, merchant, of Portland, of certain sums of money due from said Enoch Freeman." Doubtless his financial difficulties were caused by going heavily into debt to build such a magnificent home. When Samuel Freeman sold the estate to Captain John Warren in 1826, the deed of that date stated that it had been "long occupied and improved by Enoch Freeman."

It is a family tradition that the builder owned a timber land and a saw mill at Machias, and that the lumber for this house was brought here by oxcart. Aside from the

twenty-four room mansion there were originally three large barns, a blacksmith shop and a workshop on the farm which extended from Main Street to the Gorham line, with pasture and woodlands extending to the Stroudwater River. The course of the Cumberland and Oxford Canal passed for some distance through this property.

The house has always been painted white with green blinds and the outer doors are flanked with side lights and over each is a wooden fan painted green. The doors have brass latches and knockers. The steps are large slabs of granite with an iron foot scraper at the side of each top step.

In some of the houses of that period the rooms were either very high or low posted, but in this house they were of average height and size, most pleasant and livable, usually having more than two windows to each room. Each of these windows had twenty small panes of glass. Folding wooden shutters, top and bottom, could be folded back into recessed panels on each side of the windows. The fluted finish around the window and door frames was all hand made, as was the panelling around the fireplaces. This panelling, the newel posts and winding stair rails in the hallways were made of bird's eye maple. The wainscoting was one board of pumpkin pine thirty-six inches wide, and the original floors were of pine boards, some being twenty-two inches wide. The doors, known as Christian doors, were made in panels to form perfect crosses and all were equipped with ebony knobs. There were five fireplaces and a brick oven which was later dismantled when a new ell replaced the original low ell.

Lewis P. Warren, whose parents Captain John and Eleanor Lamb Warren purchased this palatial home in 1826, became one of the most prominent business men of Westbrook. Following his death and that of his wife, the former Sarah Turner of Otisfield, the property was left to their daughters, Lelia Warren and Edna Warren Joy. The home is now owned and occupied by Mr. and Mrs. Otis Wyer, the latter being the daughter of Edna Warren Joy, and their family. Many of the family heirlooms have been restored to their original beauty and usefulness. A grandfather clock

purchased in 1815 by Captain John Warren from the Reverend Samuel Dean of Portland, a fine time piece of this type, still stands in the hall keeping perfect time. It is said that the first bell to be installed in the First Parish Church of Portland was rung for the first time according to the time of this grandfather clock.

Other heirlooms include a sampler made by Mrs. Wyer's great grandmother, Eleanor Lamb Warren, in the year 1799; a canopy bed with pineapple carving on the posts; a mahogany chest of drawers with original brass rings for pulls; a fine Heppelwhite inlaid sideboard; many tables and chairs; spinning and flax wheel; warming pan, candle molds and snuffers; china and glassware and many other articles. It is rarely that one finds such a fine early home preserved with so few alterations and so many original furnishings. These heirlooms are greatly cherished by their present owners who hope to pass them on to future generations.

One of the oldest houses in Westbrook, according to records, is the farm at 649 Saco Street belonging to Frank A. Chick since 1911. It was before that, except for the previous five years, owned and occupied by members of the Trickey family. A deed recorded in 1757 shows that Eleanor Trickey, widow of Zebulon Trickey, conveyed the eighty-three acre farm, with buildings thereon, to their sons David and Zebulon, then minors. In 1783 the latter sold his share to his brother David. That this is the Saco Street Trickey farm is evident from the fact that David Trickey in 1794 sold to James Webb a piece of land, stated in the deed as having been bought from Zebulon Trickey, which later was sold to William Roberts. A deed of 1805 shows that Daniel Trickey bought from Lucy Waldo "all of the 577½ acres not already sold, of the land laid out to Thomas Westbrook and Samuel Waldo".

A deed of 1818 shows that the Trickey property then comprised 160 acres. For so old a place the buildings have been well preserved. The original house had two stories, but no ell. It must be more than one hundred years ago that the house was enlarged for the ell was equipped with a fireplace

and brick oven. These and six of the original eight fireplaces in the main part of the house are still intact. The Chick family still have in their possession the two arch kettles, one of copper and the other of iron, used in the brick oven. The old iron shovel, with a four foot handle, used for removing ashes from the fireplace, is also owned by the family.

When the house was enlarged, the original front became one end. An older type of front door leading into a central hall is located at what is now the right end of the house as it appears from the street. The shaved, hand done clapboards on the back of this part of the house are the early overlapped type and here the windows are smaller, with small panes of glass. The walls in what is now a back room, but was originally the "front parlor", are entirely painted with quaint landscapes and, unlike most decorations of this type found in the early houses, have a very light background so the room is not darkened. Below the painted wall is a two foot wide wainscoting of pumpkin pine. The brick hearth of the fireplace is made of eight inch square hand made bricks. In all there are fifteen finished rooms in this old house.

The home of Roscoe Libby at 477 Saco Street is still known to some as the Hatch house. According to McLellan's history of Gorham, Captain Nathaniel Hatch sold his property in that town in 1787 and afterward moved to "that part of Falmouth which is now Westbrook where he built a two story brick house on Saco Road". A deed recorded April 10, 1795 shows that for £150 Charles Frost sold to Nathaniel Hatch, Jesse Partridge and Moses Quinby, "that tract of land that was laid out to James Irish by the Proprietors of Falmouth for his 40 acre lot Oct. 12, 1732—to be equally divided with Nathaniel Hatch having the Southwest end of the lot". Captain Hatch was for years a seafaring man, and, in later life, a Methodist preacher. He built his home of bricks made on the premises with four large chimneys and a fireplace in each room.

A daughter of Nathaniel Hatch married William Roberts who, in 1816, built the house now 547 Saco Street which has

always remained a family possession. It is at present owned and occupied by Mr. and Mrs. Melvin Waterhouse, the latter a great granddaughter of the homesteader. Originally the house had but one story, the second being added in 1856. Though several of its numerous fireplaces have been closed, the one in the kitchen with its brick oven and two large boiling pots is still intact. William Roberts, aside from being a farmer, was an important contractor and builder of his time and several main highways in this section were built under his supervision.

Among the yellowed manuscripts in this house may be seen a bill, dated March 3, 1810, for the construction of the first bridges at Congin, itemized as follows:

"First Bridge	\$600.00
Second "	720.00
Moving pier upstream	25.00
Lumber and labor at end of bridge	5.00"

Another bill records that in 1832 William Roberts excavated earth from the mill site and canal for the Portland Manufacturing Company. His son, Charles, worked with him in the contracting business and, in time, took over both that and the management of the farm. Charles Roberts, with Daniel Trickey, bought timber lands in the town of Sebago and for years carried on a lumber trade under the name of Roberts & Trickey.

In 1843 William Roberts, then sixty-nine years of age, and a widower for twenty-eight years, decided to remarry and build a new home, the brick house overlooking the Stroudwater River. He lived to be ninety-three years old and at his death the property was left to his grandson John Roberts, then to the latter's daughter Eva Roberts, who, a retired school teacher, still resides there at 541 Saco Street. This well built house has been carefully preserved, with few alterations. The kitchen fireplace and brick oven with the unique, long, high mantel above remain as of old. Here may be seen a yellowed document dated 1843 in which the contracting mason agreed among other specifications to lay the brick at the rate of \$1.50 per 1000. An interesting heirloom

is the grandfather clock, with scarcely legible maker's label, brought from Bristol, England, by Captain Nathaniel Hatch in his seafaring days. In the early days of this Saco Street settlement, the families in all the houses were in some way related and across the street from the brick house is the Joshua Roberts place which was built in 1856.

In the midst of a new development of houses on Saco Street near the Stroudwater River stands a large house built many years ago by a member of the Johnson family who owned and operated a saw mill on the river part way between Saco and Spring Streets. A deed recorded in 1767 states that James Johnson sold to George Johnson "40 acres of land in that part of Falmouth commonly called Stroudwater". This forty acres was a part of one hundred acres that had been purchased of Samuel Waldo. George Johnson built his house and saw mill which, in 1798, he sold to his son Jeremiah. The following amusing incident is told of Jeremiah Johnson who was not at all times a temperate man. Once, when he had fallen asleep in his cart on the road, someone, for a joke, unhitched and drove away his oxen. Upon awakening he dazedly looked about and trying to figure things out slowly said, "If I'm Jerry Johnson I've lost two oxen, if I'm not Jerry Johnson I've found a cart and two wheels".

In 1835 or 1836 Jeremiah Johnson sold his saw mill privilege and right of way "passing by my fence" to Rufus, Nathaniel and Gardner Johnson. To the latter he also sold seventy-five acres of land across the road from his dwelling, and the house which Gardner Johnson built is still standing.

Though the small house, 110 Saco Street, just above the Saco Street School, has always been known to the oldest residents as the Walker place, its origin has long been obscure. Deeds recorded in 1826 show that Nathan Freeman sold to Isaac G. Walker, of Scarborough, a three-quarter acre lot of land. Walker sold the upper half of this lot to Otis Valentine, and upon the other half built the small house still standing there. Some time later this property was acquired by Leander Valentine for, at his death, the so called

Walker place was a part of the estate divided among his nieces and nephews.

The house nearby which Otis Valentine built in 1826 came thirty years later into possession of Leander Valentine who sold it in 1871 to Leonard Valentine. When the latter built a new house he removed the old house to its present location at the corner of Saco and Green Streets.

On Pierce near the junction with Cumberland Street is a very old house whose origin has long been lost. A map of one hundred years ago shows that it then was occupied by D. Small but just who he was, or when he acquired the property has not been determined. A few of the oldest residents remember this place as being called the Bailey House.

In a deed recorded in 1771, in the division of the estate of John Cox of Portland, two of his daughters were apportioned an eighty-eight acre tract of land in Falmouth "lying in the uppermost lot on the Presumpscot River." Another daughter, wife of Joseph Bailey, received land lying in Portland. No deeds record how the transfer was made, but somehow Joseph Bailey and his wife acquired the eighty-eight acres mentioned above, for deeds recorded in 1776 show that Joseph Bailey sold to his sons Josiah and Daniel fifty acres and forty acres, respectively, of a tract of land that he then owned and on which he had a homestead. Through his land ran what later became Pierce Street, then called "The road from Saccarappa to Proctor's Bridge", which was an early bridge across the Presumpscot River one-eighth of a mile above the old Pride's Bridge at Riverton. The old house, still standing, is the original homestead built by Joseph Bailey in 1771 or soon thereafter. Many alterations have been made but the old fan doorway still remains.

His grandson, Levi Bailey, by deed recorded in 1828, sold to Daniel Pierce forty-five acres of land on the street which later was named for him. Here Mr. Pierce, a lumber merchant, built a palatial home, the cost of which no doubt hastened the financial ruin which soon followed.

This house is now better known as the Haskell house at 234 Bridge Street. After Mr. Pierce's departure from West-

brook there followed a period when the house had various owners and, at one time during the 1850's, it was occupied by John P. Rich, Superintendent of the York & Cumberland Railroad. In 1864 it was purchased by Otis Brown who had been a chore boy for Mr. Pierce when the sumptuous home was built. Mr. Brown also enjoyed a short lived prosperity and finally the place passed into the hands of the Rollingsford Savings Bank. In 1880 it was purchased by Frank Haskell, ancestor of the present owners, who was then agent for the Westbrook Manufacturing Company.

This large square three storied house stands on a slight eminence and is surrounded by spacious grounds. Still ready for use are nine of its ten fireplaces of which no two are alike, except those with black marble mantels in the eighteen foot square double parlors. Some fireplaces are lined with soapstone and have hearths of the same. Nineteen doors open into the great halls, doors with many panels, crosses, and T's, with ebony knobs that raise and lower the latches, and all with bolts, except one, which has an enormous key.

The staircase is not only beautiful, with its mahogany rail and fine hand carving, but also curves in a most unusual way. The windows have inside wooden shutters with beautiful paneling below and the wide wainscoting of a single width of board. The closets have many shelves and drawers, and little shelves for candles or lamps pull out from under large shelves in the store rooms. Such elaborate detail and generous storage space were seldom found in the old time houses.

The large brick house on Bridge Street, opposite the Dana Warp Mills, known to many as the "Bean House," was in 1909 converted into an apartment house by Woodbury K. Dana. More than one hundred years earlier this was a fine mansion which was built by Joshua Webb, son of Nathaniel Webb, for his bride. Both father and son were prominent lumber merchants. Set well back from the road in its own gardens and lawns with no mills to obstruct the view down stream this mansion was one of the finest of its day.

The old fashioned front door had a fan light above and lights at the sides. In the large front hall a graceful staircase

wound up to the third story, lighted from above by a glass dome. The whole outside of the staircase was beautifully carved and the banisters were slender and square. The windows had inside shutters and broad seats. The main house contained four rooms on each floor while the ell was two rooms deep and three stories high like the main house. Four large chimneys, measuring more than eight feet across the front, made a fireplace for each room. In the kitchen the chimney was even larger, with great ovens and boiling pots. In the basement were great chimney arches, vegetable bins and a vault for safe keeping of valuables.

Just when Joshua Webb built this house is not recorded but it was probably about 1805 at which time he bought saw mills at both the lower and upper falls. Their price of \$2,000 each, added to the cost of building so magnificent a house, must have started his financial ruin. By 1812 he was beset by creditors and the next year was forced to give up his home. One of the most unusual records to be found at the Registry of Deeds shows that, following a law suit, the property was divided with one dividing line running right through the center of the house.

During the early days of Saccarappa with its growing lumber business and numerous sawmills, one of the first sections to be settled was that on Bridge and Brown Streets near the falls and river. One of the first large landholders in this section was William Haskell who, by deed recorded January 22, 1788, bought from the Falmouth committee 103 acres of common and undivided land and had a great mill near the end of the bridge. Later he sold some land to his brother, Benjamin Haskell, who also built a home here and, by deed recorded January 14, 1797, Benjamin sold eighty acres to Jonathan Webb described as "the homestead farm where I now live." Judging from dimensions and bounds given, the house must have stood near the corner of Bridge and Brown Streets.

The house now standing there, opposite the Dana Warp Mill office has been referred to as a Haskell house, but it is not certain whether it was so-called because of having been

built by a Haskell, or because it was, about a century ago, the residence of Frank Haskell. It was built by a man of means for the best of materials and construction were used, and for years it was used as the residence of managers and officials of the Westbrook Manufacturing Company.

At the time the new office of the Dana Warp Mill was built on the corner of Bridge and Brown Streets, Judge Fabius M. Ray wrote an article about the house, then removed from that site to a spot slightly back on Brown Street. He referred to it as a beautiful mansion built by Daniel Thompson, and later the home of David Hayes who was for many years a deacon of the Westbrook Congregational Church.

Well up toward the Bridge Street School stands an old house which is now much deteriorated but in its day was a fine dwelling. The origin has not been determined, but more than a century ago it was the home of Rufus and Cyrus King, who had a general store on the corner of Bridge and Main Streets. In later years it was owned by members of the Rufus K. Jordan family.

Jonathan and Nathaniel Webb, who owned several saw mills, probably developed Brown Street. At least one of the houses, built about 1800 near the inner angle opposite the new Catholic Church, was owned by Nathaniel Webb who died in 1810.

According to a writer of early local history the large brick house number 11-15 Brackett Street near the corner was built by Zachariah Brackett with bricks burned at his brick yard at Pride's Corner where he was then living. Since the Pride's Corner property was sold to Peter Pride in 1812, the house on Brackett Street was probably built about that time. By a deed recorded in 1842 we find that after the death of Zachariah Brackett, intestate, enough of this property was ordered sold at public auction to raise the amount of \$6,200. To Daniel Carpenter was sold "the northerly half of the mansion house", the other part of which was set aside for the widow.

The house beside the Walker Memorial Library, now occupied by Dr. Harold Libby, may not, because of additions and

alterations, appear as old as records prove it to be. This was for many years the home of Frank McCann and, earlier, that of this grandfather, Bryce M. Edwards. The latter, a prominent citizen and business man of his time, had a general store on the corner of Bridge and Main Streets where he also sold hardware and farm equipment. The house was built by Nathaniel Wakefield about 1825, and a deed recorded that year shows that he bought the lot from Nathaniel Haskell for \$200. Eight years later he sold it with buildings for \$1,000.

Of a little later date are the two houses nearby owned by Dr. Louis Hills and Mrs. George M. Woodman. Both of these beautiful old homes are well preserved and furnished in keeping with their period. The house purchased in 1911 by Dr. Hills has been in the possession of but two families. It was built in 1842 by George Warren who, in partnership with his brother Lewis P. Warren, was a prominent business man. In his later years he was a member of the Governor's Council, and as such, entertained noted personages of that time. The plan of the house is unusual in that the large drawing room, running the width of the house, is located on the second floor, with a small parlor for ordinary use on the first floor.

The home of Mrs. Woodman on the corner of Main and Church Streets was built in 1844 by Dr. William Marrett. Much of the interior finish was done by the carpenter, Henry Sands, who resided across the street in the house occupied for many years by Dr. Bertrand Marshall. In the two front rooms are wooden shutters of an unusual panel model designed by Mr. Sands. The original house was later enlarged and occupied by Dr. Marrett's son-in-law, Fabius M. Ray. Dr. Marrett, a deacon in the Westbrook Congregational Church, often entertained the members and also many noted ministers in his home. Among the notables entertained here by Mr. Ray were General Joshua Chamberlain, Senator Thomas B. Reed and William Widgery Thomas, one time minister to Sweden. The two last named were his Bowdoin classmates of 1861. When the late Dr. Woodman built a garage, workmen discovered a foundation wall believed to be that of the first Methodist Church built in Westbrook, and this wall was used as a part of the foundation of the garage.

A deed registered in 1768 records that Solomon and Benjamin Haskell bought from Samuel Waldo "100 acres of land on the southerly side of the river—beginning at Saccharappa Falls and so running down the river 126½ rods to a stake; and from said falls and said stake, 126½ rods back from said river." A deed recorded in 1793 shows that Solomon Haskell sold to his sons, Solomon and Mark, "the same 100 acres I now dwell on, except what I have sold to Jonathan Webb." At this time, too, the elder Solomon sold to his sons his grist mill and saw mill.

In an old newspaper article the house, now belonging to Pericles Boobas at 810 Main Street but greatly changed in appearance, was described as one of the oldest in Westbrook. This was the home of the younger Solomon Haskell, and thus would date back to about 1793 though the exact location of the original Haskell house is not known. As recorded in 1816 Solomon deeded to his son Nathaniel Haskell "one undivided half part of one undivided half part of the 100 acre tract of land, together with one half part of the whole of the dwelling house where the grantor lives, and one undivided half of his barn and out buildings." Here Nathan Haskell lived until 1821 when, deciding that it was not suitable to rear his sons so near to stores where rum was on sale, he sold the house to Ebenezer Haskell and built a new house farther from the village. Ebenezer Haskell, too, must have felt that the place was becoming too thickly settled for three years later he sold and settled on a nine acre farm on Spring Street above the Beaver Pond.

After passing from the Haskell family this Main Street property changed hands six times before coming into the possession of Alonzo Libby. To the oldest Westbrook residents this has always been the "Lon Libby" place, none realizing how much earlier was its origin. Alonzo Libby was a stock breeder and owned a large field between Rochester and Stroudwater Streets above Lawrence Street. Here, after the hay was cut, he used to take his cattle to feed, driving them twice daily to and from the stables at his home, right through the Main Street of the town.

On Main Street about opposite the foot of Spring Street stands the homestead of Mark Haskell, built about 1793. After the death of his widow Elizabeth, the property was divided and the house passed from the family. During the last century it has had various owners and is now better known as the Stephen Skillings place.

When, about 1824, Ebenezer Haskell left the old home place on Main Street near the village and settled on a nine acre farm on Spring Street he built the house now standing on the corner of Union Street. This was sold in 1847 to Ephraim Pennell and passed from the latter to his sons, Charles and Frank, then on down to the present owner, Everett Pennell. This property and the house at 95 Spring Street, now owned by Maurice Parker and occupied by Stanley Weir, were sold to Ephraim Pennell by Samuel Larrabee, whose wife had inherited them from Ebenezer Haskell.

Near the latter house Ephraim Pennell had a "heading shop" where he made barrel heads to be shipped to Portland by canal boat. Another "heading shop" was located on the other side of the road about where Roy Wyer's home now stands. The canal landing was located at about the spot where Valentine Street now joins Spring Street.

In the house just below the landing, and nearest to it, once lived a Friend named Winslow, who had a cobbler shop. By canal boat he received cloth uppers from a Portland shoe firm which he returned after putting on the leather soles. This house, known as the Hill house, and others of approximate age nearby, have changed hands so many times that their origin is at present undetermined. Most of the older houses on Spring Street were built about 1833 or soon thereafter. All deeds recording transfers of property on Spring Street between 1824 and 1850 refer to this as "The road leading from Saccarappa Village to Stroudwater Falls so-called."

By deed recorded in 1833 we find that Nathaniel Wakefield built the house which, after his death about twenty years later, was sold to John Pennell, father of the present

owner, Lillian Pennell, a retired school teacher. In this house as in the two next above it and also in the home of Harry Higgins across the street, may be seen the same type of front hall. This extends more than one story high and has a graceful staircase, with an upper railed hall overlooking the lower hallway.

The house second beyond Valentine Street corner, now owned and occupied by Robert Smith, was built about 1833 by Levi Tole who is said to have planted the elm trees bordering Spring Street. It is also said that Mr. Tole, a brick mason, fell to his death while building the chimney on a house on Haskell Street. A deed recorded in 1845 shows that he left a minor daughter, Martha Ann, whose guardian Isaac G. Walker, sold the property. Since then the house has changed hands many times. At the lower part of Spring Street half way between Main Street and the railroad tracks stands the little Cape Cod house best remembered as the Wiley house. This was built about 1841 by Charles Pratt.

The beautiful colonial home long owned and occupied by Dr. Frederick E. Wheet was built by Joseph Walker, donor of the Memorial Library. Mrs. Lewis Huston whose husband bought the place in 1907, relates that Albert Trickey, the previous owner, said that the house was then seventy years old, making its erection date about 1837. He also told that the woodwork in the large double parlors was of solid mahogany, since covered by many coats of paint. Originally it had a brick oven and a fireplace in every room.

By a deed recorded in 1839 we find that Joseph Walker bought an acre of land between the river and land which he already owned. The grantor was Benjamin Foster, a clothier of Westbrook, who owned and occupied a home where the Methodist Church now stands on the corner of the street named for him. A description of the bounds is concluded thus: "said Walker agrees to build a good and sufficient fence adjoining said Foster's land, of cedar posts and pine or hemlock boards, free of expense to said Foster's heirs or assigns to maintain one-half of said fence forever after."

A part of Westbrook to be settled at an early date was that near Stroudwater. Of the old houses one still standing has been the home of Alphonso Greenlaw and family since 1904. It was built by James Johnson about 1767 or 1768 when, by deeds then recorded, he bought land from Thomas Fluker, Samuel Waldo and others. Reference is made to these lots in a deed of 1791 when Johnson sold, for £400, his farm of 109 acres with the buildings. The property was again sold to Zenas and Cushing Pratt in 1801 and remained in the family until 1895 when John Knight became the owner. Though this house has been greatly altered the old beams and wooden pins used in its construction may still be seen.

Other early landowners in the Stroudwater Road section were William and Solomon Babb who, by deed 1801, purchased a large tract of land in Falmouth near Saccarappa from Jacob Noyes of Portland, administrator of the estate of Joseph Noyes, for \$800. At that time Solomon Babb came from Falmouth to settle in Saccarappa. The property must have changed hands in 1825 for a deed dated 1837 reads: "Ebenezer Haskell of Westbrook in consideration of \$800 to Solomon Babb of said Westbrook a certain lot of land and buildings thereon situated in said Westbrook on the road leading from Saccarappa to Stroudwater Falls and is the same land I purchased from said Solomon . . . Aug. 3, 1825."

The family home at 24 Highland Street, many times remodeled and improved, is said to be the original house and is now occupied by Mrs. Irene Files Elwell, a direct descendant of Solomon Babb.

On Main Street next to the service station at the corner of Stroudwater Street stands an old house long owned and occupied by the Bearce family and at present by Roy Frazer. This was built about 1827 by Thomas Howe, a "house wright", who for \$275 bought of Joseph Haskell a lot of land on the corner of the roads to Portland and Stroudwater running 8 rods and 6 links on the former and 10 rods and 10 links on the latter.

By a deed recorded 1846 we find that Mr. Howe sold the lower third of his lot to Solomon Libby who built the house now belonging to George Markos. The house next below,

best known as the "Al Skillings place", originally stood on the upper corner of Main and Spring Streets where it was built about 1841 by Levi Q. Pierce and later moved to its present location.

The little Cape Cod house at 688 Main Street nearly opposite Dunn Street has been traced back to 1847. At the time of one transfer of the property there had apparently been trouble in evicting the former owner, a widow. The deed had this conclusion "with all the rights and performances I have made to remove said Mary Crague from said house"

One of the oldest buildings standing on Main Street is the charming Cape Cod house standing well back from the street, nearly opposite the Warren School. This was built in 1810 by Major William Valentine, father of Leander Valentine. Major Valentine moved to Westbrook from Massachusetts in 1803. Here he engaged in the manufacture of nails and at the same time carried on a grocery trade in the store on the corner of Bridge Street later occupied by Lewis F. Edwards, and at present the site of a furniture store. Mr. Valentine was one of the town's first selectmen and was also one of the original trustees of the Saccharappa Grammar School Association. He was the father of a large family, eleven sons and four daughters, and lived to the age of ninety-five.

CUMBERLAND MILLS: A deed recorded February 16, 1767, "in the seventh year of his Majesty's reign," shows that Edward Gilman sold for £80 to 'Ichabod Hunt, shipwright and John Wilson, cordwainer' an 80 acre tract of land at a place called Deer Hill near Ammoncongin". The point of beginning of the bounds was a "pitch pine tree marked *P.*" Mr. Gilman reserved "a road of one rod wide from said tree down to my house, and said 80 acres is to bound on the easterly side of said road." This is the first known reference to a road in this section. Another deed of the same date shows that Hunt and Wilson sold one-half, or 40 acres, of this land to William Lamb for £160. As deeds

were not always recorded promptly, it may have been much earlier, but definitely by 1767, that William Lamb had become established at Deer Hill. Here he lived in a log cabin in the woods until he could clear land and build a small house on the western slope of the hill.

Portions of the original house and barn at 42 Deer Hill Avenue still stand near the fine structure which he later built. It was a beautiful residence with a commanding view of the surrounding country. William Lamb was a thrifty and progressive farmer who, by 1770, had already added twelve acres to his holdings. His son, John, born at the homestead in 1787, engaged in other kinds of work aside from carrying on the large farm, and before the time of railroads he managed a sort of express business, driving a team between Boston and Bangor when the one way trip took about two weeks. In the latter part of his life he was engaged in making bricks at his brick yard located approximately at the intersection of Oak and Waltham Streets. At this time there was a hill of clay, necessary for the manufacture of bricks, between the brick yard and Main Street as it now runs. The road curved around this hill past the yard to avoid a boggy section, or pond, between the present Berkley and Mason Streets.

By working untiringly and living frugally, John Lamb amassed considerable property. His extensive holdings were bounded roughly by the Presumpscot River, the land of Benjamin Larrabee, and by Lamb and Stroudwater Streets. Many homes and streets have come from the Lamb estate, 100 acres of which, kept in perfect order, still remain the property of William Lamb, retired banker, and great grandson of the pioneer, William Lamb.

In a deed recorded in 1792 may be found an account of the appraisal of the property of Benjamin Larrabee, late of Portland, and its division among his heirs. Of the items of real estate listed the only one outside of Portland was "60 acres of land at a place called Deer Hill, in Falmouth, at 36 shillings an acre, £108." This land was apportioned to the eldest son, Benjamin Jr., born in 1768, and here he estab-

lished a home. By a deed recorded in 1787 it is shown that there were buildings on the farm when it was purchased by the elder Larrabee.

An early writer of local history states that the house was removed by Benjamin Jr. to make way for a larger house on its site. Apparently the original house having only three rooms was moved across the road near the old barn. It is now, with some alterations and additions, the farm house of John Maxwell. Not only does a description in a deed of 1793 indicate that this was the original house but that belief is also shared by William Lamb, a lifelong resident of Deer Hill, and Mrs. Cora Pride, a keen minded octogenarian who lived nearby as a child. She recalls that Mr. John Larrabee, whose own house was built about 1825, always referred to this as "the old house."

Mr. Larrabee, who has twice married and the father of twelve children, built, probably before 1800, a large imposing house beautifully situated on the slope of the hill. It stood on the site of the house at 201 Main Street, now owned and occupied by Mr. Woods and Mr. Waning, for many years known as the Maxwell place. Besides farming, Benjamin Larrabee carried on an extensive lumber business. As early as 1803 he began adding to his property which eventually comprised about three hundred acres, bounded roughly by the Presumpscot River, the Portland-Westbrook line, a section of Stroudwater Street, and the land of the Lamb family.

After the death of the homesteader in 1832, his son, William, inherited a large share of the estate adjoining the Lamb land, a lot on each side of the road with buildings thereon. Here he resided until about 1852 at which time was recorded his purchase of a farm in Gorham. Apparently he leased his property in Westbrook until 1857 when he sold it to Clement Maxwell and the beautiful spacious home which he had inherited became a public resort of ill repute.

The story is told that Parson Bradley once stopped in as he was passing that way and, finding a gambling game in progress, scooped up all the money in sight and took it with

him for his church. The life of the so called White House was short, for, to rid the community of its bad influence, the S. D. Warren Company bought the house and had it removed to its present location at 36 Cumberland Street. It became in turn a company boarding house, a hotel, and is now an apartment house.

The house just below at 17 Main Street near the Portland line, long occupied by the Fish family, was built by John Larrabee. A deed of 1824 shows that his father, Benjamin Larrabee, gave him a five acre lot on each side of the road with certain stipulations. During his father's lifetime he was to build such buildings as his father approved, he was not to "commit strip or waste" and he was to pay, on a given date each year, a rent of \$60 if his father should request it. It is said that according to the will of the last owner, Frederick Larrabee, the remaining property could not be sold for fifty years.

The Main Street home of Bertrand B. Nelson, long known as the Lamb place, was occupied by William W. Lamb about one hundred years ago. His nephew, William Lamb of Deer Hill, states that it was built earlier, but at what date or by whom he is not certain. It was William W. Lamb who began the development of the section of Cumberland Mills between Rochester Street and Webster Avenue, all of which he owned. It was he, with Bryce Edwards, who planned Woodlawn Cemetery. In this home at 344 Main Street was born his son, Frank W. Lamb, who, in the later years of his medical practice, became an X-ray Specialist in Portland. Dr. Lamb was genuinely sympathetic, kind and friendly to everyone and was honored and respected by all who met or knew him.

The attractive colonial house at 353 Main Street near Mason Street, for years owned and occupied by the late Dr. Frank Smith, has always been known to most of the older Westbrook residents as the Newcomb place. Though it was purchased by Elisha Newcomb in 1855 it was built seven years earlier by Clement P. Maxwell. Deeds of those dates show that Maxwell paid Samuel Lamb \$450 for eight acres

of land and then sold it, with the buildings, for \$2,000. The date 1848 has been found marked in the plastering of one of the closet walls.

Many will recall with a mixture of pleasure and regret the house which was always known as the Raymond house, about opposite the foot of Lamb Street, razed in 1938 or 1939 to make way for a service station. In "Grandpa's Scrapbook" Leonard Chapman, a former writer of local history, refers to this beautiful mansion with the large elm tree in front, and located near the junction of the roads from Portland to Saccarappa and the one to Windham. He states that in 1815 Captain Aaron Winslow resided in the Gilman house which was taxed on a \$900 valuation, a high figure for those times. Exactly when the house was built is not known. As was seen in the deed of 1767, describing land sold to William Lamb, Mr. Gilman reserved a road a rod wide to his house. It is not certain whether this was the Gilman house standing in 1767, but it is certain that this house was built prior to 1792 for, by deed recorded that year, the heirs of Edward Gilman sold about one hundred acres of land that he had bought from his father, an earlier Edward Gilman, and Enoch Illsley. The Gilman holdings must have at one time comprised all of what in later years became known as Cumberland Mills. Deeds recorded in 1792, 1807 and 1813 show, in turn, the transfer of about 100 acres of land, with buildings, to Nathan Winslow, Hezekiah Winslow and Aaron Winslow. Selling prices in 1807 and 1813 were \$3,200 and \$3,500 respectively. In 1842 the price was \$5,000 when Aaron Winslow sold to Samuel T. Raymond the remainder of this large estate.

Aside from managing the farm Mr. Raymond was for a few years engaged in the grocery business as successor to Benjamin Harris whose father had built the store at the point of land between the two roads. Later Mr. Raymond was associated with George and Lewis P. Warren and Joseph Walker in the grain business at Saccarappa. During the Civil War he furnished large quantities of beef for the army, killing an average of 100 animals a week. He also built a number of houses for rent. At the death of S. T. Raymond, his son,

Harlan, continued farming and was also for years connected with the Portland Packing Company. Of the original 100 acre farm he reserved for himself 60 acres. From the remainder he sold house lots and made several streets including State, Raymond, and Pearl Streets and Warren Avenue. The great barn, now occupied by a dry cleaning company at 1 Cumberland Street, was moved back to make way for a drug store to be built for Harlan Raymond's son King. The original farm continued to be broken up, but the beautiful mansion remained in the family until it, too, gave way to advancing commercialism.

Only a few of the oldest residents of Westbrook can remember when the charming old Cape Cod house, now occupied by Ralph Bragdon at 425 Main Street, did not belong to the S. D. Warren Company and none knew its origin. From a deed recorded in 1828 we find that for \$175 Aaron Winslow sold to Nathan Harris about an acre of land coming to a point between the road from Portland to Saccarappa and the "road to Windham leading over Congin Bridge." Here Mr. Harris, a trader and real estate dealer, built two houses and a store which he kept until his death.

In 1856 the property came into the possession of Frank Pride who had sold his large farm at Pride's Corner with its store and brick yard. In connection with the store at Congin Mr. Pride had a restaurant or lunch counter for men working at the paper mill. Following his death ten years later, his sons operated or let the store until the property was sold to S. D. Warren Company in 1880. The store and one house were razed, to be replaced by the present brick Warren Block. The house left standing has since been occupied by employees of the S. D. Warren Company.

For one not privately owned it has been very well preserved and perhaps the most interesting feature is the front hall with a gracefully curving and beautifully carved staircase. The entire surface of the walls is hand painted with quaint landscapes. These murals in the hall and those above the wire board wainscoting in the "front parlor" are said to have been done by a traveling artist who thus earned his board and lodging.

Nathan Harris who had built this house and the store about 1828 also built the large double brick house nearby at 24 Cumberland Street. It was probably about 1833 when he purchased the land from Aaron Winslow. It is said that the first family of the Catholic Faith to come to Westbrook lived here in 1850. The property was purchased by the S. D. Warren Company in 1866, and has since been occupied by employees.

An old newspaper article of 1902 on the early houses of Westbrook, referred to the residence of Mr. Joseph A. Warren, 175 Cumberland Street, as "perhaps the most famous of its day, of the historic houses at Ammonconglin." At the time it was built, and for years following, this house was the only one in Cumberland Mills north of the river. It was in 1804 that Major Archelaus Lewis, a prominent business man of that day, bought a large tract of land north of the river at Congin, including the water rights on that side of the river. It was through his efforts that the road "from Inkhorn Brook in Windham to Deering's Bridge in Portland" was laid out in 1808. Deering's Bridge was located at the site of the power station by the intersection of streets at the foot of Forest Avenue Hill.

Earlier than that time a person traveling from Windham to Portland by the River Road had to go down Pierce Street and cross the bridge at Saccarappa. At that time, too, Bridge Street and Methodist Road did not extend to Cumberland Street, nor was the present Park Road in existence. A person traveling to Saccarappa from Pride's Corner, Highland Lake, or Pride's Bridge (at Riverton) approached Pierce Street by a now long discontinued stretch of road through the wooded section at the rear of Rocky Hill school.

On his great farm in a sightly location between the new road and the river, Squire Lewis, as he was called, built a beautiful brick mansion and capacious barns. Here he moved his family in 1809, after selling his property at Stroudwater, and here he lived many years engaged both in farming and lumbering, having sawmills at both Congin and Saccarappa. The "Lewis Farm" house, as it was called, has been much

altered both inside and out since passing from the Lewis family into the hands of the present owners, the S. D. Warren Company, but none of Westbrook's early houses has had better care.

Across the street from the brick mansion is the small Lewis cottage now occupied by Richard Porter. In 1845, after selling the large estate, Archelaus Lewis, son of the homesteader, moved this small building, formerly the North School, to its present location and converted it into a dwelling for his family.

At Rocky Hill on the Methodist Road, near the private Cobb burying ground lying close to the road, stands an old house now owned and occupied by Wyman Kemp. The back part or ell of this dwelling was the original house built by Asa Cobb in 1820, at which time he and his brother, Peter Cobb, bought one hundred acres of land from James Winslow. This land had been granted to the heirs of Phineas Jones by the proprietors of Falmouth.

This was the birthplace of Oliver Cobb, a well known, loved and respected man, who for years was associated with Westbrook schools, the Masonic Lodge, and long always keenly interested in all civic matters. In 1862 Oliver Cobb bought his father's property and, four years later, also bought the adjoining property of his brother Solomon, a one armed veteran of the Civil War. The latter's house was moved to become the front part of Oliver Cobb's dwelling. Of the house, thus enlarged as it is today, the back ell was built in 1820 and the front part is over 100 years old.

The house across the street was built in 1852 by Amos Davis who married Asa Cobb's daughter, Apphia Dole Cobb. Before her marriage she taught school for the "municipal" sum of \$1.00 a week and either "boarded around" at the homes of the pupils or was boarded by the lowest bidder, at which time the food was usually very poor. Mrs. Davis lived to be 91 years old, and her son, Charles Davis, born in this house in 1858, is at present the oldest living native of Westbrook.

PRIDE'S CORNER SECTION: On a lane just off East Bridge Street is the old Winslow house, known in later years as the Boody farm. It was built in 1748 by James Winslow, a descendent of the Winslow family of Mayflower fame, who came from Freetown, Massachusetts in 1728. He received a grant of 125 acres from the Massachusetts courts at that time. Here he built a small house in which he lived until 1748 when, deciding that he needed a larger house, he erected the present beautiful homestead where he lived for many years. Afterward his son Nathan became owner of the property, succeeded by Nathan the 2nd. Both were prominent men of their time, the name appearing often in real estate transfers.

Sarah Jane Winslow, born in 1785, married Benjamin Boody in 1830. Thus the name Winslow became merged with that of Boody, and the estate continued in the Boody family until 1909 when the death of the last member made it possible for Mr. Alvin F. Dean of Portland to obtain the farm. He occupied the estate for the remainder of his life, when it then became the residence of the late Mr. Warren G. Stiles until his death in January 1951.

The so-called Winslow-Boody house has a most interesting historical background. It was built of lumber from a large tract of timber on the estate and many of the boards are 32 inches wide. A beautiful cupboard was built into a corner of one of the front rooms where it still remains. The cellar door, a very substantial affair, was made from a single board. Off the kitchen there is a room with deep windows and a great fireplace where Quaker meetings were held, Mr. Winslow and his family being the first in early Falmouth to embrace the Quaker faith. It has been mentioned that, in 1794, the first school of which we have record was held in the above mentioned room and its teacher, Robert Blair, also acted as Quaker minister.

An article about Charles Boody, son of Benjamin and Sarah Winslow Boody, in the Biographical Review of Cumberland County printed in 1896, referred to the estate thus: "The Boody farm contains 200 acres of valuable and well

located land including tillage, pasture, and woodland” which is a very conservative description of this beautiful estate.

Another well preserved house in this section owned and occupied by Dr. Roland Moore is at 684 East Bridge Street not far from Pride’s Bridge, now known as Riverton Bridge. To the oldest Westbrook residents this has always been a “Boody place” but, prior to that, it belonged to the Proctor family. A deed recorded in 1761 shows that John Proctor bought ten acres of land adjoining the sixty acre lot he already owned “at the Bank’s Edge, on the northerly side of Presumpscot River.” Following the description of boundaries is this final statement: “This is to certify that I, Joseph Conant, do acquit John Proctor from all Notes of Hands, Bills, Bonds and Book Debts from the beginning of the World to the date hereof.”

John Proctor built a saw mill and across the Presumpscot River about one-eighth of a mile above the old Pride’s Bridge, he built a bridge which was of short duration. References to Proctor’s Bridge may be found in early records and faint traces may still be seen of the road leading to this bridge. By a deed recorded in 1838 we find that Frederick Proctor sold to Benjamin Boody the 100 acre farm “excepting a small piece of about four rods square where my father and others are buried.” In this family burying ground on Dr. Moore’s premises one stone records the death of John Proctor in 1823, aged eighty. When the house was built, about 1761, it had but one story, the second story having been added at some later date.

Perhaps the most unusual and interesting feature of this charming old house was the secret passageway with stairs leading down by the central chimney to a hiding place beneath the great stone arch supporting the huge chimney. This was for protection of the women and children in case of attack by Indians. When alterations were made the passage way was closed but the entrance closet by the chimney is still known as the Indian closet.

Near Pride’s Bridge (the present Riverton Bridge) on the State Road stands a large brick house which has been in

the possession of members of the Walker family since 1765 and is now occupied by Mr. and Mrs. Vernal Gaily. It is said that the bricks for its construction were brought from England and, during Revolutionary War times, it was used as a tavern. The house was probably built before 1765 by Captain John Waite, a lumber merchant, who, by deed recorded at that time, sold his property at this location to George Walker. Perhaps the most interesting feature of this fine old mansion is the dancing or game room occupying the whole of the third floor.

In 1849, about the time of the birth of Lyman Walker, the front parlor was redecorated. It was never again redecorated for his entire lifetime of eighty-nine years. An old bill shows the cost of the black "glass marble" fireplace mantle and frame to have been fifty dollars. In the front hall hangs a crude map of the Walker estate which is said to have comprised one hundred ninety-six acres.

Three members of the Walker family owned brick yards. About one hundred years ago William Walker built, for two of his sons, brick houses which are still standing on the same side of the road between the old home and Pride's Corner.

At the lower corner on the right of the intersection of the State Road and Brook Street which, in a deed of 1802 is called the "underwitted road," stands an old house that, until recently, was occupied for half a century by the Clark family. At one time when alterations were being made workmen discovered pasted to the wall beneath the plaster a newspaper dated 1826. This dwelling is believed to have been erected at an earlier date but the origin has not been traced. The house, originally of Cape Cod style, was moved to its present location from Brook Street and here may still be seen, on the lower floor, the old hand hewn timbers.

On the opposite corner to the right of this intersection stands the home of Seth C. Cousens. It was built by William Brackett about 1788 at which time he bought one hundred acres of land in this section from the proprietors of Falmouth. In 1793 he added thirty-three acres to his holdings and was operating a brick yard on the premises before he sold the property in 1812 to Peter Pride.

Ten years later most of the property came into possession of Frank Pride who, aside from making bricks, operated a store at the corner until 1856 when he sold out to Thomas Lowell and moved to Cumberland Mills where he had a store on the site of the present Warren Block.

At 405 Bridgton Road is an old Pride homestead now owned and occupied by Lynne Conant. One owner, Samuel Pride, is said to have planted the elm trees standing near the road in that section. This house was for several years owned by the Wheeler family who sold, for recent development, much of the once large estate of the Prides. The foundation is of granite and the timbers used are held together with wooden pegs.

HIGHLAND LAKE SECTION: Long years before there were state highways the old Duck Pond Road was a part of the main route of travel from Portland through Windham and Raymond to points in New Hampshire and Vermont. In the section between Duck Pond Corner, now Highland Lake Corner, and Pride's Corner there were several stopping places for travellers and teamsters.

The entire Highland Lake section was at one time Woodbury property and the beautiful home of the Phelps family at Highland Lake Corner was probably built by Peter Woodbury, as one descendent believes. Deeds of this property trace back to one recorded in 1791 when Peter Woodbury sold well over one hundred acres to Robert Plummer who, in turn, sold it to Ebenezer Woodbury in 1806, at which time the latter married Ann Plummer. The purchase price of \$3,000 included "all the buildings on the whole of the premises." It is said that this house was once used as a tavern.

Descendents also state that Peter Woodbury was the builder of the first sawmill. There were a succession of mills following the original one and the house on the left, just beyond the mill stream, was first built as a dwelling for the early mill owners or managers. The large ell, barn and stable have been torn down but the house, now owned by Henry Gowen, still remains.

A deed of 1792 records the sale of ten acres of land by Peter Woodbury to James Gowen who built, in the early 1800's, the next house on the left. This house, now owned and occupied by Henry James Gowen, has been the home of five generations of James Gowens. The building has been altered but the original arched hallway has been retained.

The little house across the road, occupied by Clinton Moody, is said to have formerly stood on this site but was moved and used as the home of James Gowen while the new home was being built.

Just beyond on the right is a small house that, for many years, has been known to the oldest inhabitants as the Ellen Knight place, but is also said to have been built by Peter Woodbury. It is now owned by A. L. Plummer. The actual date of building this house and Peter Woodbury's first saw mill is not known but it was sometime prior to the Revolutionary War. By deed recorded in 1769, his first purchase of about fifty acres of land in this section is shown and, in 1774, he added to his holdings by two more purchases.

About a half mile below on the left is the place still known to some as the "Old Gowen Tavern." This house was built by William Gowen sometime in the 1700's and is now owned by Everett Williams. Henry Gowen, a descendent, recalls the tales told by his grandfather of the days when the tavern was active. The teamsters who came through with produce and lumber from Windham and Raymond, would stay one night on their way to market in Portland, proceed to Portland the following day and then stop to spend one night on the return trip.

Approximately half way between the corner at Highland Lake and Pride's Corner is the Hale place. In a newspaper clipping of 1914 Dr. L. L. Hale wrote: "my great grandfather, George Hale, took up this tract of land, a portion of the Webb farm, and built a house in 1775, after being burned out by Mowatt. The house of oak frame is still in good condition." The same may be said today of this sturdy dwelling. A few years ago the huge central chimney, which had six fireplaces and a brick oven, was felt to be a fire

hazard and was removed making space on the first floor for a bathroom, but the charming mantels and fireplace frames remain. Wide boards on end form the partition walls, except where there were fireplaces and here the entire walls are beautifully paneled with very wide boards. Some years ago when layers of wall paper were removed from the south parlor faint outlines of a stencil design were found on all but the fireplace wall.

In the back part of the house, running almost the entire length of the second story, is the large so-called hall where many years ago there was a row of beds for the use of teamsters stopping over night on their two or three weeks round trip from places in New Hampshire and Vermont. Half of the huge barn that accommodated the teams was later removed to a new location but the remaining half is an unusually large structure.

This well built old house is the dwelling of Cora Pride, widow of Charles Pride, a keen minded octogenarian. She was a Woodbury, and has the old family bible in which are recorded the birth of Cornelius Woodbury in 1778 and the marriage of Ebenezer Woodbury in 1806. Here may be still seen the white wedding gown of the latter's bride, and here also is a grandfather clock which has stood in this house for more than one hundred fifty years.

CHAPTER 10

THE MILITARY AND BANDS

WESTBROOK, within its present boundaries, was sparsely settled until after 1800. Nevertheless, the town was represented in the early wars of the country. Indians plagued the early settlements of Maine from their beginning until the conquest of Canada by the British in 1760, when the Indians found themselves unable to fight the settlers without French aid. In 1747 Parson Smith records in his diary: "W. Knight and 2 sons taken at Sacarabig." That same year Samuel and Joseph Conant were enlisted in Captain George Berry's Snow Shoe Company which was formed to search out marauding Indians.

When the British decided to pay for their colonial wars by taxing the colonies, Falmouth protested as loudly as any other town in Massachusetts. In 1775 several companies of minute men were raised with Colonel Edmund Phinney of Gorham in command of a regiment of which these companies were a part. Captain John Brackett of Saccarappa headed one company. He had been a captain in the local militia and recruited a company for the service of the colonies. His company left for Cambridge on July 3, 1775 but, soon after he reached Massachusetts, Captain Brackett was taken ill and died in Ipswich, Massachusetts on his way home. Two men of his company were Daniel Lunt and Archelaus Lewis, both of Westbrook. Daniel Lunt became a captain in Colonel Joseph Vose's regiment, serving until 1783, and Archelaus Lewis served as a lieutenant in the same regiment. Thomas Haskell and Samuel Westcott were also listed as being in Vose's regiment in 1780. At home in Falmouth, Captain Joseph Pride of Pride's Corner commanded a company whose duty was to coast along the shore and protect fishermen and other small craft from British privateers. His two sons served in his company.

In the War of 1812 the British again harried the shores. In July of 1814 a force sailed from Halifax to "destroy coast towns and shipping, and ravage the country". Forts along

the Maine coast were manned and readied for action. Two companies of men were raised in Westbrook, one commanded by Captain Jeremiah Bailey, Lieutenant John Babb and Ensign Charles Jordan, the other by Captain Joseph Valentine, Lieutenant Henry Babb and Ensign John Bixby. These companies were part of Lieutenant Colonel Hobbs' regiment and saw service for a very short time in Portland.

In 1850 there was a militia company in Westbrook known as the Westbrook Light Infantry. The officers were Captain Hiram Jordan, Lieutenant Thomas Smith and Ensign Charles Prince. It is said that musters of militia were held yearly in an old barn on the New Gorham Road. The last militia parade was held in 1859, when some Revolutionary uniforms still appeared.

After the secession of the Southern States in their disagreement with the North over States' Rights and the slavery question, President Lincoln sent out a call for volunteers. At the first call for men two Campaign Corps were raised in Westbrook. One company was called the "Wideawakes" the other the "Lincoln Guards". Mr. Edwin Haskell, a boy of eleven at the time, remembered their flashy uniforms and torch light parades. Many of these men served in the 20th Infantry Maine Volunteers which rendezvoused at Portland and was mustered into the United States service for three years. This company took part in the battles of Antietam, Fredericksburg, Chancellorsville, Gettysburg, and Appomattox, where Lee surrendered, as well as many others. In Company H of the 17th Maine Regiment there were thirty-four Westbrook men. Among the men from Westbrook who were killed in this war were Captain Andrew Cloudman for whom the Cloudman Post No. 100 was named, and William Wade for whom Wade Camp, Sons of Veterans was named. In all, three hundred and ninety-five men from Westbrook served in the Civil War.

After the end of the war, Grand Army Posts were formed in many states. In Westbrook the Cloudman Post No. 100 was organized on December 27, 1883. There were 30 charter members, as follows: Frank Adams, Lorenzo Barbour, Al-

bert H. Burroughs, Harrison S. Cousins, Woodbury K. Dana, John K. Dunn, Walter H. Farwell, Stephen S. Flye, Roger A. Foss, William H. Hammond, William H. Hanson, William P. Hodsdon, Charles A. Hodsdon, William H. Holston, Daniel P. Horr, George K. Hunt, Edward W. Jones, Alonzo Libby, Samuel Lovell, Hebron Mayhew, John Meserve, Edward B. Phinney, Thomas C. Pratt, John A. Scott, Hiram B. Sproul, Alphonzo M. Swett, Nathaniel Swett, William H. Swett, Abram I. Tyler, George A. Whidden. The last surviving member of the Post was William H. Kelley who died in 1938.

In 1884 the Sons of Veterans U.S.A. was organized and named Wade Camp No. 19. The object of this organization was to take up the work of the G.A.R. side by side, "dividing no honors with it, but working to perpetuate those honors". In 1925 the name of this organization was changed to Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War.

In 1884, also, the Cloudman Relief Corps No. 18, Auxiliary to the G.A.R. was organized. Those eligible were mothers, wives, daughters and sisters of soldiers and sailors in the Civil War. The charter members of Cloudman Relief Corps were as follows: Mrs. Ellen M. Barbour, Mrs. Julia O. Barbour, Mrs. Fanny Burroughs, Mrs. Abbie H. Cousins, Mrs. Mary L. H. Dana, Mrs. Frances E. Durrell, Mrs. Emily Elwell, Mrs. Sarah L. Elwell, Mrs. Annie D. Foster, Mrs. Mary R. Foster, Mrs. Laura Graham, Mrs. Ella L. Hawes, Mrs. Mary E. Hodsdon, Mrs. Ida M. Holston, Mrs. L. A. Horr, Mrs. Georgie A. Jackman, Mrs. Bernice Larabee, Mrs. Gertrude Leighton, Mrs. Alice Libby, Mrs. W. L. Longley, Mrs. Mary E. Marriner, Mrs. Ellen Mayhew, Mrs. Rose McLellan, Mrs. Alice B. Payne, Mrs. Ellen A. Snow, Mrs. Nellie Sproul, Mrs. L. V. Stiles, Mrs. Carrie M. Swett, Mrs. Nellie F. Swett, Mrs. Jennie L. Wescott, Mrs. Susan R. H. Wheeler, Mrs. Susan A. Whidden. At the present time granddaughters, nieces, grandnieces, and cousins of veterans as well as army nurses are eligible to join the Corps.

The Relief Corps has provided flags for the Cloudman Post No. 100 and for several schools, raised a monument in

Riverbank Park as a memorial to veterans of the Civil War, provided a tablet for the Walker Memorial Library which lists all veterans who enlisted from Westbrook, and all names of veterans who resided in Westbrook after the war. Miss Ethel Dana, a member of the Relief Corps, prepared a book, now in the Walker Memorial Library, giving all data on the men listed on these tablets. In 1925, Cloudman Post No. 100 felt that they could no longer carry on their work, because the members were so few in number and so advanced in years. Therefore they turned over their books and property to the Sons of Union Veterans and the Relief Corps. Trustees were elected from these organizations and the work is being carried on under the name of the Cloudman Post Memorial Association.

The National Guard, as such, came into being in 1893, when the Maine Legislature authorized that name for the citizen soldiery. In 1896 Cleaves Rifles, Company M, of Westbrook was officially organized as a component of the 1st Regiment of Infantry. Its officers in 1897 were: Captain H. G. Starr, 1st Lieutenant J. W. Knight and 2nd Lieutenant L. C. Holston. In May, 1898, the entire National Guard of Maine was mobilized at the State Camp in Augusta to serve in the Spanish-American War. The 1st Infantry volunteered as a regiment and was mustered into United States service on May 12, 1898. Officers elected for Company M at that time were Captain Charles A. Carleton, 1st Lieutenant Willard C. Lord, and 2nd Lieutenant Fred Hobbs. The Regiment was ordered to Chickamauga, Georgia and left Maine on May 27th. At Camp Thomas in Chickamauga the regiment was designated 1st Maine Volunteers and assigned to the 2nd Brigade, 3rd Division, 2nd Army Corps. In August the 1st Maine was to be sent to Puerto Rico, but, due to increasing tendency to fever among the men, it was instead sent back to Maine where the men were mustered out of service in October and November of 1898.

After the war, Company M continued to be Westbrook's National Guard Company. In 1899 the following officers were elected: Captain James W. Graham, 1st Lieutenant

Willard C. Lord, 2nd Lieutenant Walter W. Simth. After 1910, due to changes in the State's military affairs to conform with Federal law, the 1st Regiment became the Coast Artillery and Company M became the 12th Company, Coast Artillery Corps. The Coast Artillery was mustered into service in May 1917 after the entrance of the United States into World War I. They were first stationed at the harbor defenses in Portland, later reorganized, entirely changed and sent to France. Another unit, Blaine Battery, was enlisted in Westbrook in July 1917 as part of the Milliken Regiment, later the 56th Pioneer Regiment. This Regiment was sent overseas on September 4th, 1918 where it was moved up to Meuse-Argonne as a defense unit, sent to Germany in May 1919 and on June 22nd, 1919 returned to the United States to be mustered out in July.

Of the three hundred and ninety-eight men in World War I from Westbrook those who died in service were: Eugene Adams, Elmer D. Anderson, Napoleon Buotte, Joseph Chamard, Herbert G. Cobb, Wyvern A. Coombs, Alphonse Dame, Stephen R. Dresser, Carroll Fuller, Erald Harmon, Tracy Jacques, Enoch Ladd, Stephen W. Manchester, Harvey M. Miller, William W. Poole, Jr., David A. Richards, Leon E. Richards, Walter A. Thompson and George H. Whitzell.

In October, 1919, forty-four men who had returned to Westbrook from service in the war started the American Legion Post No. 62. The first officers were: Commander, Percival A. Bachelder; Vice-Commander, W. B. McGuire; Adjutant, Solomon A. Herman; Finance Officer, Lemuel G. Babb; War Risk Officer, Fred W. Small; Historian, Walter E. Frank; Employment Officer, Winfield R. Fernald; Chaplain, Dr. Frederick F. Wheet and Executive Committee members, Dr. Louis L. Hills, Horace H. Towle, Earle L. Mitchell, H. M. Fredrick, George Gilman. The Post was named for Stephen W. Manchester, the first Westbrook boy to be killed in the war. Meetings were held in the Armory, and later in Cloudman Relief Corps Hall and the Redman's Hall until the American Legion building was

dedicated in 1929. The Post set out trees in Riverbank Park to commemorate the men killed in the war, and a bronze tablet was placed there. In 1938 the Post sponsored a Juvenile Band, with Mr. Ernest Silva as leader, uniforms were provided and the band played for many civic occasions. The highlight of its existence was a trip to Boston to take part in a mammoth parade at the American Legion National Convention. With the advent of World War II the activities of the band were suspended. The Post has formed an Auxiliary to the Westbrook Police Force, given financial aid to the Veterans Service Center, donated to the Westbrook Community Association Swimming Pool, as well as aiding other community projects. At present there are about three hundred members.

In 1922 an auxiliary to the Post was formed, the first officers of which were: President, Edith J. Towle; First Vice-President, Rubie E. Naylor; 2nd Vice-President, Isabel F. Anderson; Secretary, Josie M. Patridge; Treasurer, Beulah V. Miller; Sergeant-at-Arms, Blanche Esty; Historian, Hazel A. Patridge; Chaplain, Clyed R. Kirkpatrick. The work of the Auxiliary has been largely with veterans and their families in rehabilitation and child welfare. Both Togus and the Marine Hospital have been visited and presents given to the patients there. A Junior Auxiliary was started in 1939, dissolved in 1941 and reformed in 1950.

At the time of World War I some Westbrook men did not wait for the United States to declare war but volunteered to serve with the Canadian forces. In October 1920, twenty-two of these men with Dr. Frank Smith for their commander, formed Post 101 of the Canadian Legion. Following World War II, fourteen veterans of that war joined the Post. At the present time, Arthur Crowe is the Commander and the Post is active in civic affairs.

Another Westbrook organization formed by veterans of World War I was the Harmon Whitzell Buotte Post No. 2531, Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States. Its charter was presented by National Headquarters in 1932. The National Organization was founded in 1899 and eligi-

bility requirements include service on foreign soil or hostile waters. The Westbrook Post was named for three privates who gave their lives in World War I: Erald Harmon, of Co. C. 301st Engineers, who participated in the battle at St. Mihiel and died in service in December, 1918; George W. Whitzell, who served with the 12th Company, Coast Artillery Corps, and transferred to the 103rd Field Artillery, and was killed by a shell in the French village of Dompton; Napoleon Buotte, who served in the 12th Company, Coast Artillery Corps, and died in service in January, 1918. There were thirty charter members with John O'Gara named as first Post Commander. The Post has supported community projects, as well as assisting in carrying out the program of the Veterans of Foreign Wars. An Auxiliary to the Post was formed in 1948 which has performed noble service for the veterans.

After World War I, Maine men also kept up their interest in the National Guard with the 3rd Maine Infantry as the only National Guard unit in the country. In 1922 it was officially designated the 103rd Infantry and, in 1926, Company D was authorized and recruited in Westbrook. It was federally recognized in March 1927. Solomon Herman, a Major in World War I, was its first Captain and organizer. Other officers were 1st Lieutenant Lemuel Babb, 2nd Lieutenant Francis H. Cloudman.

On February 24, 1941, Company D was inducted into Federal service. The officers at that time were Captain Francis H. Cloudman, 1st Lieutenant Lynne Conant, 2nd Lieutenant Wilfred E. Rocheleau, and 2nd Lieutenant John W. Lovell. This Company trained in Florida, North and South Carolina, Louisiana and Mississippi. In October 1942, attached to the 43rd Infantry Division, the company was sent overseas to New Zealand and in January 1943 went into action on Guadalcanal, then moved on to New Guinea. In December 1944 the Company went to the Philippines, in January 1945 attacked the Japanese there and worked their way to the northern part of Luzon, where, near Manila, they assisted in taking Ipo Dam. In September they were in

Japan and were sent back to this country in October 1945, where they were put on the inactive list. The present Company D is a heavy weapons company which was Federally recognized on February 7, 1947; its present officers are 1st Lieutenant Donald M. McGuire, 2nd Lieutenant Michael Swisko and 2nd Lieutenant Richard C. Dow.

Thirteen hundred men from Westbrook were in the various services of the United States in World War II. The city was well represented in the Navy and Marine Corps as well as the Army. Those who were killed or died in service are as follows: Navy and Marine Corps: Asa T. Bartlett, Joseph Dufour, Robert C. Lavangie, Christian Winther, Philip Arsenault; Army: Albert Arsenault, Joseph A. Auclair, Edgar E. Barriault, Philip A. Boucher, Wade L. Bridgham, Harvey Chamberlain, Francis H. Cloudman, Jr., Wesley Dearborn, Mederick Dyer, Leonard Emery, Gordon Fraser, Edward A. Gallant, Christian Hansen, Arthur E. Hawkes, Joseph Jones, Gordon Kelley, Malcolm Kenney, Ralph L. Littlefield, Harold R. McBride, Oden T. Naylor, Jr., George E. Nadeau, Conrad J. Pellitier, Alfred E. Poitras, Paul Robertson, Armand A. Roy, Lucien A. Roy, Charles A. Sinclair, Woodbury Spring, Charles Stickney, Joseph W. Therriault, Howard G. Waterhouse, Clarence E. Widber.

After December 6, 1941 all veterans of World War II were eligible to join the American Legion and all over-sea veterans to join the Veterans of Foreign Wars. Many returned men have joined one or the other of these organizations. Besides this, in 1947, some of the returned veterans formed a branch of the American Veterans Committee, with Vincent Bruno as first Chairman. This organization was for veterans of World War II who were honorably discharged from the services. Its purpose is "to achieve a more democratic and prosperous America, and a more stable world". Its motto is "citizen first, veteran second".

Since World War II many of Westbrook's young men have returned to or entered the United States services for action in Korea, under the United Nation's flag. Some have made the Army their career, among the men from West-

brook still in service are the following: Major General Joseph Vachon, Brigadier General Nathaniel Burnell, Brigadier General Ray Burnell, Lieutenant Colonel Edwin Richardson and Lieutenant Colonel Frank Hinkley.

As before mentioned militia parades and parades of "Campaign Corps" before the Civil War were part of the community life and well remembered by all. After the Civil War, Memorial Day was set aside by the Northern States as a day to show respect to the war dead. This was always the day when all veterans, militia, or National Guard units paraded and a band was always a necessary part of these parades.

Among the early bands to be organized in Westbrook was the Westbrook American Band, with Howard Babb as leader. As well as adding music to the parades and gatherings of the veterans, this band played at political meetings and at the Gorham Fairs. In 1894, the old Westbrook Band was discontinued because of "hard times". The Salaberry Band, organized in 1884 by the Reverend Father A. D. DeCelles, was led at first by Gardner D. Weeks of Gorham, who, after six months work with the band, was succeeded by Pierre Painchaud of Biddeford. After the old band was given up, the Salaberry Band became the Westbrook Band and took over the duties of the former in addition to giving concerts at Riverbank Park.

In the 1860's Tony Clark organized a band, known as Tony Clark's Juvenile Band. This band was very popular and its members received valuable training which produced several fine musicians. In 1889 Mr. Clark organized another band at Cumberland Mills called the Presumpscot Band that became very popular as a parade band and was known throughout the state.

As time went on, the membership of these bands dwindled. When the S. D. Warren Band was organized in 1936, under the leadership of Samuel Guimond who was once leader of the Salaberry Band, many remaining members of the former bands joined the new group.

Another band, which many watched with great interest

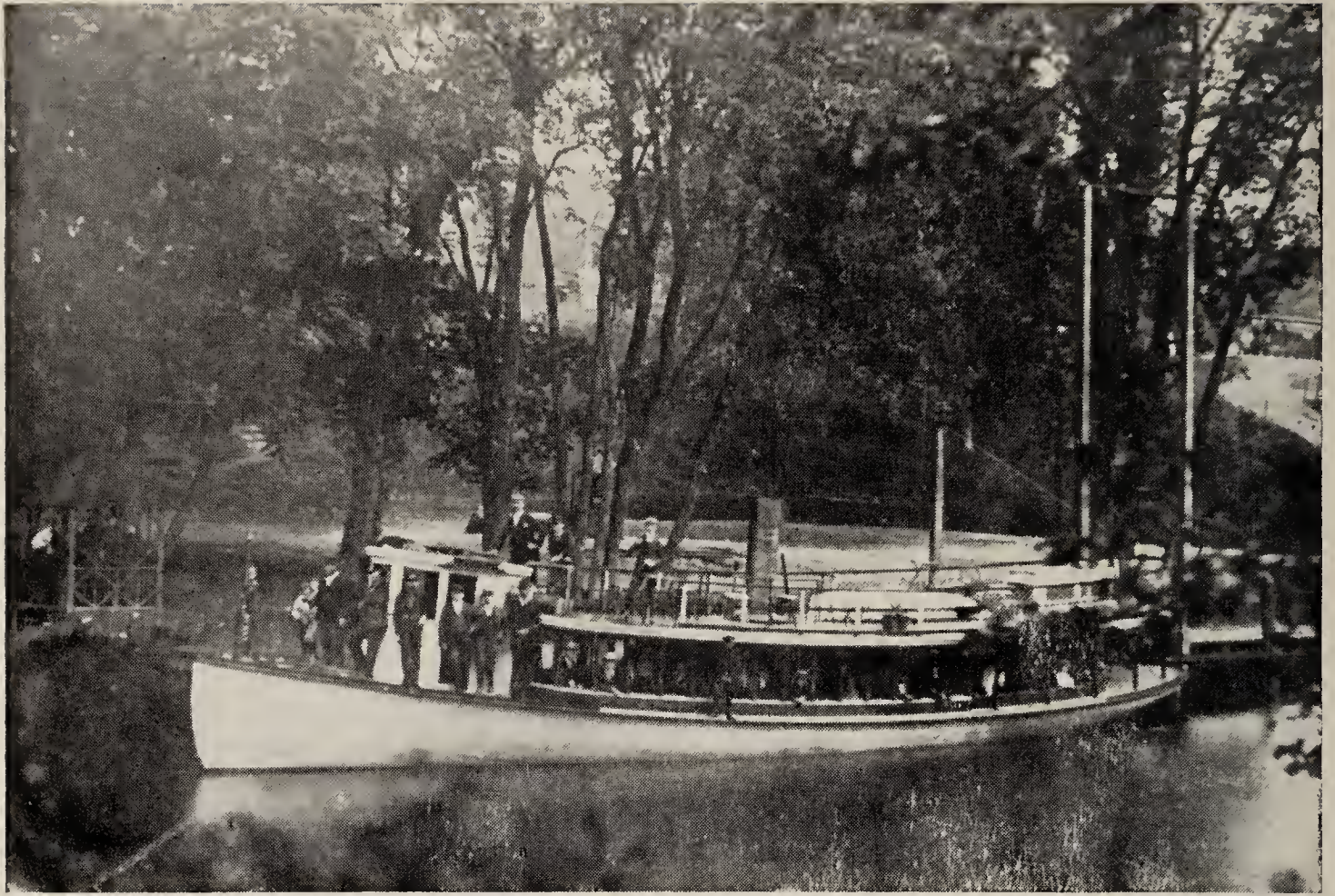
because of its spectacular uniforms and snappy marching, was the Crusader Drum Corps, organized in the spring of 1947. The merchants supplied the bugles for the band, S. D. Warren Company the drums and the Catholic Action Organization the uniforms. The first director of the Crusaders was Ernest Silva. Their first appearance was in the Memorial Day parade of 1947 which was the largest ever seen in Westbrook, about two thousand and fifty veterans parading in uniform as well as several bands. The Crusader Drum Corps won honors at several American Legion Conventions and was invited to parade at the Bath Centennial Celebration in 1949, where it won top honors. Other bands that have also paraded with the military are the Rotary Boy's Band, the American Legion Juvenile Band and, of late, the Westbrook High School Band.



CUMBERLAND MILLS VILLAGE.
Looking West.

Cumberland Mills Band Stand

Cumberland Mills Village From Deer Hill



GRAND EXCURSION TRIPS UP THE PRESUMPCOT

The New and Elegant Steamer SOKOKIS will make Three Regular Trips per day between WESTBROOK AND MALDEN FALLS, N. H. Leaving Westbrook, 10 A. M., 2 and 3.30 P. M. Returning in time to connect with the 12 M., 3.30 and 5.30 P. M., Electric Cars for Portland.



Any party or parties desirous of enjoying a Special Trip up the river, before or after regular hours, can make reasonable arrangements by addressing the proprietor.

PARTICULAR NOTICE.—Be Sure and Take the 9.10 A. M., 1.10 or 2.40 P. M., Electric Cars from Portland to Head of Presumpscot.

H. HEZELTON, Proprietor

WESTBROOK, ME.

Pleasure Boats On The Presumpscot In The 1800's

CHAPTER 11

FRATERNAL AND CIVIC ORGANIZATIONS

SACCARAPPA LODGE 11, I. O. O. F. was instituted in May 1844 and met in Jewett's Hall in the old Presumpscot House which was located on the site of the present Masonic block. The Grand Lodge of Maine had been so recently organized that the Lodge secured the first dispensation ever issued by this Grand body. Twenty-three members formed the Lodge and, at the fiftieth anniversary in 1894, three of them were still living, though they had ceased to be members. The charter members were: Moses Quinby, 2nd, the first Noble Grand; Albert Harding, George W. Partridge, A. H. Cobb, Moses Stiles, Sewall Brackett, Bailey Quimby, Abraham Parker, William Cloudman, Aaron Quimby, D. C. Cloudman, C. E. Boody, Joseph Walker, Dana Brigham, Nathaniel Murch, J. P. Libby, Benjamin Freeman, Elias Dodge, J. L. Frost, T. B. Edwards, Charles Evans, J. H. Watson and Oliver Winslow.

After removal of the Presumpscot House to Fitch Street the Lodge occupied a new hall in the Brigham Block on upper Main Street and grew rapidly, numbering one hundred fifty members in 1845 and one hundred ninety-five by 1848. It moved to the Warren Block at the corner of Main and Bridge Streets in 1848, sharing the hall with the Temple Lodge of Masons. The Lodge established a library in 1853 which was in operation for several years. During the Civil War interest waned and by 1863 there were only twenty-three members. For two years the Lodge ceased to function although the charter was never surrendered and the regalia was held by the Noble Grand, John Brown of Brackett Street, one of the underground railroad men for runaway slaves.

On April 17, 1866 the Lodge reorganized, the members being John Brown as Noble Grand, Solomon Libby, as Vice Grand, Nathaniel Murch, Eleazer Chase, Joseph P. Libby and David Babb. In 1867 the Lodge moved to the Brackett Block at Main and Brackett Streets and remained there for

sixteen years. By 1881 the membership had grown to two hundred twenty-five, and that year forty members withdrew to form Ammoncongin Lodge at Cumberland Mills. A few years later ten more withdrew to form a Lodge at Gorham, Maine. Then it was decided to build, and the cornerstone of the present I. O. O. F. building was laid in 1882. The building, which cost \$8,000, was ready for occupancy by 1883. By 1912 the Lodge discharged the mortgage on the building, and here the 100th Anniversary was celebrated in May 1944. This Lodge has given the Grand Lodge of Maine two Grand Masters, namely David W. Babb in 1871 and William W. Cutter in 1901.

NAOMI REBEKAH LODGE NO. 1 was instituted December 15, 1869 with fifty-four charter members, fourteen of whom were members all of their lives, though none are now living. The Rebekah Degree was conferred on the candidates during a session of Saccarappa Lodge, I. O. O. F. It is regrettable that the records of institution are not in our possession now. The Honorable Schuyler Colfax instituted and founded The Rebekah Degree in 1851. The initial step had been taken in the Sovereign Grand Lodge in 1850, but it took the master mind of Mr. Colfax to group all the ideas presented into one and to smooth out the irregularities and prepare the Rebekah Degree. The late George Marriner was instrumental in obtaining sixteen members for the Naomi Lodge. He was the first Noble Grand, while his wife, Mary, served as the first Vice Grand. The sisters did not at first hold office as Noble Grand. The first to do so was Margaret Bettes who was the grandmother of Mr. Fred Millett, Past Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Maine, Superintendent of the Odd Fellows Home for several years, and now Secretary of the Grand Encampment of Maine.

The meetings of Naomi Lodge were first held in a hall at the corner of Main and Brackett Streets until 1882, when the present Odd Fellows building was erected. The Lodge has always been composed of a band of faithful workers and is a real sister auxiliary to Saccarappa I. O. O. F. Lodge.

Honors of office have come to some of the members: one, the late William W. Cutter, was Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Maine and later Secretary until his decease, and Sister Nellie Stevens who was President of the Rebekah Assembly. The Lodge has also furnished these District Deputy Presidents: Pauline Hezelton, Martha Knowlton, Nellie Stevens and Nellie Morrison, each serving two years; Rubie Naylor, Wilma Jordan, Elsie Farley and Minnie Elliott, each serving one year; and Annie McLucas who transferred from Ammoncongin Rebekah Lodge with her husband Preston who is a past Grand Patriarch of the Grand Encampment of Maine.

In December 1913 thirty-one members withdrew to become charter members of Congin Lodge of Rebekahs. The present membership is eighty-nine and pride is taken in the eighty-one years of useful existence during which the object has been to uphold the principles and precepts of the Order and to work always for the interest of the Order and the members in general.

AMMONCONGIN LODGE NO. 76, I. O. O. F. was instituted on February 5, 1881 with the following officers and charter members who withdrew from Saccarappa Lodge No. 11: Adelbert C. Chute, N.G.; Charles W. Foy, V.G.; Charles H. Leighton, Rec. Sec.; Charles W. Mace, Fin. Sec.; Frank A. Cloudman, Treas.; William W. Lamb, Byron G. Pride and David Graham, Trustees; John W. Bacon, Freeman Brown, James M. Knight, George F. Hunt, Roger A. Foss, Elijah A. Durell, William Taylor, Edward A. Durell, William M. Elwell, Edwin Hobson, Charles H. Verrill, Rennselaer C. Horr, Horace Knight, Marrett Lamb, Alfred B. Pride, Parris O. Webb, George H. Bailey, Benjamin D. Elwell, James E. Andrews, Rufus H. Grant, James Dickie, Joseph C. Brown, Henry S. Babb, John S. Fogg, Stephen Emery, Isaiah D. Leighton, Thaddeus M. Eugley, Edwin W. Ayer, Isaiah S. Manchester, Charles W. Bailey, Jeremiah H. Small, and Adelbert W. Shaw. The Lodge was instituted by Grand Master Henry P. Cox, assisted by Joshua Davis,

Grand Secretary; Daniel W. Nash, Sr., Treasurer; Freeman Merrill, Grand Marshal; George T. Springer, Grand Guardian.

The Lodge met first in Red Men's Hall located in what is now the Warren Memorial Library at Cumberland Mills. When S. D. Warren Company began to build the present block on Cumberland and Maine Streets the two Lodges, Odd Fellows and Knights of Pythias, petitioned the Company to plan for a hall and, the Company agreeing, the Lodge held its first meeting there May 31, 1881. This Lodge, together with Liberty Encampment No. 59, instituted March 1, 1921, held their seventieth and thirtieth anniversary celebrations on March 5, 1951. District Deputy G. M. F. Bernard Carver gave the address of welcome followed by a short talk in regard to Thomas Wilder who founded the first Odd Fellow Lodge in Baltimore, Maryland, in 1819. David E. Anderson, Grand High Priest of the Grand Encampment of Maine, brought greetings.

This Lodge still meets in the hall on Cumberland Street which was built for it and the Knights of Pythias over seventy years ago. It still carries on the teachings of Friendship, Love and Truth and the priceless lessons of Christianity as taught and enacted in Odd Fellowship. Charles H. Leighton, who was its first secretary, was the last surviving charter member.

CONGIN REBEKAH LODGE NO. 37 was instituted on January 23, 1914 at the present location, Society Hall, Cumberland Mills, Maine, with eighty-two charter members. Mrs. Perley (Mary) Plummer was the first Noble Grand and Mrs. Perley (Agnes) Drisko, the first Vice Grand. Sister Drisko is still an active member and has served a second term as Noble Grand. Her husband is also still active in this order and other branches.

This Lodge was organized to promote fraternalism, to take part, or share, in all community projects, to spread cheer, and to assist the brother Odd Fellows in any of their projects. The present membership is one hundred and four.

LIBERTY ENCAMPMENT NO. 59 OF ODD FELLOWS was instituted on March 1, 1921 by Grand Patriarch Samuel Adams assisted by Grand High Priest Harold J. Toward, Grand Senior Warden Elery P. Blanchard, Grand Junior Warden Henry M. Smith, Acting Grand Marshall Fred Deering and Grand Sentinel John J. Littlefield. An Encampment was opened for the purpose of conferring the three degrees to enable the petitioners to ask for an Encampment. The Grand Patriarch invited the degree team of Portland Encampment No. 19 to the chairs and sixty-six Scarlet Degree brethren were admitted to the Patriarch Degree. Then came the Golden Rule Degree followed by the Royal Purple, next the ceremony of institution, and eighteen withdrawal cards were presented, making in all eighty-four members. The following were elected as officers and installed: George H. Hallowell, Chief Patriarch; David C. Fraser, High Priest; Frank B. Carver, Senior Warden; Pearl W. Drisko, Scribe; Charles McKeague, Financial Scribe; Robert Craft, Treasurer; and Preston McLucas, Junior Warden. Two members, Preston McLucas and David E. Anderson, have passed through the chairs and had the honor of being Grand Patriarch of the Grand Encampment of Maine.

TEMPLE LODGE No. 86, A. F. & A. M.: Members of Harmony Lodge of Masons at Gorham, who resided in Saccarappa Village, held a meeting in Odd Fellows Hall early in 1856 for the purpose of discussing the subject of forming a new lodge of Masons in Saccarappa Village. Brother George Warren was chosen Chairman and Brother Aaron Quimby, Secretary of a committee to ascertain the views and feelings of the Brethren of Harmony Lodge and draft a petition for a charter. This committee consisted of Brothers, George Warren, James Ray, H. J. Bradbury and J. L. Ashby. It was voted to hold the next committee meeting at Brother D. Carpenter's house. At this meeting on February 21, 1856, by an informal ballot, the three leading officers of the contemplated lodge were selected, Brother George Warren as Worshipful Master, Brother Jonas Raymond as Senior Warden, and Brother J. L. Ashby as Junior Warden.

Application for a charter was made to the Grand Lodge, received in due time, and the organization of Temple Lodge was completed on March 27, 1856. The following is the list of charter members and first officers: George Warren, Worshipful Master; Jonas Raymond, Senior Warden; Reverend John Ashby, Junior Warden; Charles E. Smith, Secretary; Samuel T. Raymond, Treasurer; David W. Babb, Senior Deacon; Lewis P. Warren, Junior Deacon; John Coffin, Senior Steward; James Pennell, Junior Steward; H. J. Bradbury, Chaplain; John Skillings, Tyler; Winthrop Boston, David M. Bean, Daniel Carpenter, William Cox, Nathaniel Critchett, Bryce M. Edwards, William Marrett, Aaron Quimby, Charles Stearns. There have been eighty-five Worshipful Masters in this Lodge in ninety-five years.

Temple Lodge originally held its meetings in the Odd Fellows Hall then located on the top floor of the old Warren Block at the corner of Main and Bridge Streets, where the Vallee Pharmacy is now located. The top floors of this building were destroyed by fire some years ago. In May 1906 the Lodge celebrated its fiftieth anniversary at a large meeting of members and their families. The address of welcome was given by Worshipful Master, Adelbert E. Witham, a musical program was presented by a local orchestra and vocalist, and a history of the Lodge, written by Brother Oliver A. Cobb, was read by him. In 1903 the Lodge moved to the Scates building, which is now owned by the Masonic Corporation. Temple Lodge has enjoyed a healthy growth through the years and has a membership of three hundred thirty-two at the present time.

MIZPAH CHAPTER NO. 3, ORDER OF THE EASTERN STAR, is one of the oldest organizations of the Order in Maine. The Chapter was organized at Saccarappa on January 7, 1890 by Deputy Grand Patron, E. M. Forbes of New Hampshire, assisted by Mrs. Ellen L. Mayhew of this city as Grand Marshal, with a charter list of forty-four members as follows: Mr. and Mrs. David W. Babb, Mr. and Mrs. Edward S. Brooks, Mr. and Mrs. Thurston S. Burns, Dr. and

Mrs. Albert H. Burroughs, Mr. and Mrs. William W. Cutter, Mrs. Frank Dana, Mr. and Mrs. Woodbury K. Dana, Mr. and Mrs. Charles W. Dennett, Mrs. Lewis W. Edwards, Mr. and Mrs. Henry H. B. Hawes, Dr. and Mrs. Jacob L. Horr, Mr. and Mrs. Alonzo Libby, Mrs. Hebron Mayhew, Mrs. Edward B. Phinney, Mrs. Alphonso D. Purington, Mrs. George H. Raymond, Mr. and Mrs. Everett E. Reade, Mr. and Mrs. Arthur W. Ricker, Mr. and Mrs. Temple H. Snow, Mrs. A. P. Stackpole, Mr. and Mrs. Albion P. Stiles, Mr. and Mrs. Samuel S. Thompson, Mrs. George Warren, Mr. and Mrs. Charles M. Waterhouse, Mr. and Mrs. George A. Whidden, and Mr. and Mrs. Charles B. Woodman. The first officers to serve the chapter were: Mrs. Anna D. Phinney, W.M.; Dr. Albert H. Burroughs, W.P.; Mrs. Althea S. Reade, A.M.; Mrs. Addie B. Horr, Sec.; Mrs. Lucy H. Ricker, Treas.; Mrs. Ellen L. Dana, Cond.; Mrs. Clyde Woodman, A. Cond.; Mrs. Edith L. Thompson, Adah; Mrs. Helen J. Purington, Ruth; Mrs. Louise A. Burns, Esther; Mrs. Hattie E. Edwards, Martha; Mrs. Mary E. Babb, Electa; Mrs. Emma L. V. Stiles, Chap.; Mrs. A. B. Stackpole, Pianist; Mrs. Susan Whidden, Warder; and Arthur W. Ricker, Sentinel.

In 1894 fifty-one members demitted from Mizpah Chapter to form Iona Chapter No. 21 of Portland. Mizpah Chapter was largely influential in organizing the Grand Chapter of Maine in 1892 in Rockland and had the honor of furnishing the first Grand Patron, Dr. Albert H. Burroughs. In 1903 Arthur W. Ricker was Grand Patron.

Mizpah Chapter celebrated its Fiftieth Anniversary January 8, 1940 at which time addresses were given by Nellie W. Hinckley, Worthy Grand Matron; Lewis O. Barrows, Governor of Maine; Fred W. Babb, Past Patron; with the history given by Pearl P. Bachelder, Past Matron.

EAGLE CHAPTER NO. 11, ROYAL ARCH MASONS was organized in the Town of Gorham, Maine, October 28, 1857 by fourteen Royal Arch Masons, members of Mount Vernon Chapter No. 1, Portland, Maine, who were living in

Gorham and vicinity at the time. William Burton was the first High Priest and served as such until 1862. The Chapter moved to Saccharappa Village in the town of Westbrook, June 17, 1861 where it has since remained.

WARREN PHILLIPS LODGE NO. 186, A. F. & A. M. held its first stated communication April 25, 1883 in the Knights of Pythias Hall, Cumberland Mills, without a charter being granted. The Most Worshipful Grand Master Marquis F. King presented a fine portrait of the late Grand Tyler, Warren Phillips, whose name has been adopted as the name of this Lodge. This was presented for the Most Worshipful Grand Master by Brother A. C. Chute. The second communication was held on May 2, 1883 at which time notice was received that a charter had been granted by the Grand Lodge. On June 6, 1883 a fine set of officers' jewels and collars was presented to Warren Phillips Lodge as a gift of Temple Lodge.

At a special public meeting the Lodge was constituted and officers were installed by Most Worshipful Grand Master William R. G. Estes and his staff. The first officers and charter members were: Edwin W. Ayer, W.M.; Eugene M. Walker, S.W.; Silas S. Andrews, J.W.; Adelbert C. Chute, Treas.; Hugh A. Craigie, Sec'y.; James E. Andrews, S.D.; Preston J. Elwell, J.D.; J. Wesley Bacon, S.S.; John E. Ford, J.S.; Henry T. Clark, Chap.; William Gilmour, Marshal; George F. Hunt, Tyler; Edward E. Anderson, Archleus H. Bachelder, Levi H. Bachelder, Charles C. Bailey, Amandall Barbour, Grinlief E. Batchelder, Charles W. Brown, George E. Brown, Stephen A. Cordwell, Robert H. Debeck, Elijah A. Durell, Charles W. Foy, John Goodell, George M. Goodridge, David Graham, George W. Hammond, William H. Hammond, Robert L. Howe, Winfield Scott Jordan, James M. Knight, Alexander Knox, Alfred H. Larrabee, Charles W. Lawrence, George W. Leighton, Isaiah D. Leighton, William H. Lewis, William L. Longley, Charles A. Lord, Isaiah S. Manchester, Josiah D. Marr, George E. Morrill, Willis W. Neal, William L. Pennell, Harland M. Raymond,

Edward H. Sampson, Adelbert W. Shaw, Elvin C. Swett, George B. Swett, Winfield S. Swett, William Taylor, Charles W. Titcomb, Charles H. Verrill, Arthur K. Walker, William M. Warren, John H. Washburn, Mahlon H. Webb, John Wheeler, Nathan Wight, and Howell M. Winslow.

The first men to receive the Master Mason Degree after the Lodge was constituted were E. H. Cook, Peter Sorensen and Wm. A. McGaffey. The jurisdiction of the City was divided at this time, Temple having one half and Warren Phillips the other half. Much later both Lodges had concurrent jurisdiction granted and still have it at the present time. The first death and masonic funeral to occur was that of William L. Longley and the service was conducted by Worshipful Brother E. W. Ayer. The Holy Bible was presented to the Lodge on January 5, 1887 by Mrs. P. J. Elwell and Mrs. S. S. Andrews in the hall of the Ladies Friends.

Warren Phillips Lodge celebrated its fiftieth anniversary on May 3, 1933 with Right Worshipful Ernest W. Jamieson as Master of Ceremonies. At that time six of the charter members were living and four were present at this anniversary; Worshipful Brother Edward Anderson, Brother George M. Goodridge and Brother Howell M. Winslow. Brother Elvin C. Swett and Brother W. Scott Jordan were unable to be present on account of illness, but Brother William A. McGaffey, one of the first candidates, was present. Most Worshipful Brother Ernest C. Butler, the Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Maine, was also present with his suite of officers. The Lodge had an original membership of sixty-one and now with approximately four hundred members is still going strong.

BEULAH CHAPTER NO. 5, O. E. S.: In the early spring of 1891 the feeling grew that Cumberland Mills should support an Eastern Star Chapter. Mizpah Chapter No. 3 was already organized at Westbrook or, as it was then called, "Saccarappa". Since two Masonic Lodges existed in the city, the people at Cumberland Mills felt that a greater interest could be cultivated by having a Chapter identified with Warren Phillips Lodge A. F. & A. M.

On March 18, 1891 a small group of Master Masons and their wives met at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Henry T. Clark on Rochester Street to consider the advisability of organizing a Chapter. After a somewhat quiet discussion it was voted to petition for a Charter. Beulah was chosen as the name, but the records do not show the reason. The petition was sent to Benjamin Lynds of Missouri, Most Worthy Patron of the General Grand Chapter, the Charter was issued by him on March 30, 1891, and, on the same date, was forwarded to Dr. Albert H. Burroughs, Worthy Patron of Mizpah Chapter.

On April 29, Beulah Chapter No. 5, O. E. S. was instituted in Cumberland Hall by Deputy Grand Patron, Albert H. Burroughs, assisted by Mrs. Annie Phinney, Worthy Matron of Mizpah Chapter, as Grand Marshal, with a Charter list of forty-eight members, thirty-seven sisters and eleven brothers. Officers were installed, work was exemplified and instructions given by officers of Mizpah Chapter.

The first officers and charter members were: Annie L. Cobb, W.M.; Kimball Eastman, W.P.; Abbie W. Libby, A.M.; Alice Foster, Sec'y; Lottie Clark, Treas.; Ella M. Swett, Cond.; Elvira Swett, A. Cond.; Francena Shehan, Chap.; Gertrude Leighton, Marshal; Fannie Cloudman, Organist; Lou Eastman, Adah; Susie Stockford, Ruth; Georgie E. Carll, Esther; Cora Barrett, Martha; Hattie Raymond, Electa; Mary Wood, Warder; Samuel Shehan, Sentinel; Augusta Andrews, Dora Elwell, Susannah Wheeler, Florence Wheeler, Julia Barbour, Mary Foster, Phoebe Eastman, Charles W. Carll, Louisa Clark, Henry Clark, Lucy Anderson, George Swett, Oliver A. Cobb, Elizabeth Verrill, Harlan Raymond, A. W. Shaw, Almeda Shaw, Jennie Titcomb, Lizzie Chute, Eliza Foss, Mary Knight, Frances Durrell, Susie Durrell, Joseph Cobb, Annie S. Cobb, Mary Elwell, Preston Elwell, Hugh Craigie, Elna Craigie, Lizzie Neal and Allie Lewis.

After the organization of Beulah Chapter, naturally the members thought they should hold their meetings in the same hall used by the Masonic Lodge. In the early days of

the Eastern Star a few of the older Masons objected to the order, saying they did not care to have the ladies mingling with their affairs. Therefore, when application was made for the hall the request was refused. In November the Golden Cross Hall, located on Main Street opposite Rochester Street, was secured and was the home of the Chapter for two years. In the early Fall of 1893 good news came that the Masons had repented and the Chapter could use their hall the second and fourth Wednesdays in each month, providing that, if the Masons wished to use it any Wednesday evening, they should have the privilege of doing so. A large growth in membership at first could not be expected but the members were laying a foundation deep and firm, content to let the future see the results of their labors.

The Grand Chapter of Maine was organized in 1892 and Mrs. Ella M. Swett, a Charter member of Beulah Chapter, had the honor of serving as Grand Chaplain. The following year Mrs. Annie L. Cobb was elected to the office of Grand Matron. In 1909 Mr. Charles W. Carll was elected to the office of Associate Grand Patron and in 1910 to the office of Grand Patron.

Beulah Chapter No. 5, O. E. S. sponsors the Westbrook Assembly No. 2, Order of Rainbow for Girls.

WESTBROOK ASSEMBLY NO. 2, ORDER OF THE RAINBOW FOR GIRLS was organized on June 19, 1926. The Order of the Rainbow is a fraternal organization for teen aged girls in Masonic and Eastern Star homes as well as friends of Rainbow Girls. In it they gain poise and self confidence while having fun working together toward the goal of owning a complete set of Merit Award bars denoting excellence in performing certain tasks while learning to be punctual, accurate, dependable, loyal and friendly while working on various projects.

Through the efforts of Charles W. Carll, a member of Beulah Chapter No. 5, O. E. S. of Cumberland Mills, who was also Past Grand Patron of the Grand Chapter, Order of the Eastern Star, State of Maine, Beulah Chapter spon-

sored this Assembly. The initiation ceremony was performed by the officers of Portland Assembly No. 1, Order of the Rainbow for Girls, at Ionic Hall, Woodfords, Maine. Miss Mable J. DeShon, Past Grand Matron and Grand Secretary of the Grand Chapter of the Order of the Eastern Star, State of Maine, also Supreme Deputy, Order of the Rainbow for Girls, declared the Assembly instituted.

The first installation of officers was held in Society Hall, Cumberland Mills, with Past Grand Patron Charles W. Carll, installing officer, assisted by Mrs. Minnie H. Elliot, Worthy Matron of Beulah Chapter. Miss Olive Smith was installed as Worthy Advisor and Mrs. Grace M. MacPherson, Mother Advisor. Other elective officers and charter members were Ruth Barker, Worthy Associate Advisor; Arline Merrick, Charity; Reba Manchester, Hope; Sarah Carll, Faith; Etta Spiller, Recorder; Olive Blake, Treasurer; Arline Allen, Virginia Bachelder, Flora Berry, Dorothy Craft, Muriel Crowell, Mary Dana, Dorothy Esty, Bernice Fritz, Virginia Greene, Virginia Hay, Arlene Hendrickson, Lona Hendrickson, Florence Herman, Doris Hooper, Marion Kimball, Elizabeth Knight, Effie Knowlton, Florence Larrabee, Helen Larrabee, Eleanor Lewis, Ruth Lowell, Jean MacDonald, Katherine Mains, Wilma McBride, Dorothy Parker, Arline Pratt, Violette Pratt, Barbara Quimby, Mildred Roberts, Kathryn Small and Winnifred Smith.

The first Merry May Festival, including the total number of Assemblies in Maine which were four at the time, was held Saturday, May 4, 1946 in the Portland City Hall. Special features at this session were competitive precision drills given by several of the Assemblies with the Westbrook Assembly receiving the highest honor for the excellence of work shown by its team drilled by Lt. Colonel Franklin Spencer. The Westbrook Assembly also received the first award the following year and the second award in 1948 for the excellent performance of its drill team which was still under the direction of Lt. Colonel Spencer.

The first Grand Assembly was held May 7, 1949 in the

Portland City Hall and included thirteen Assemblies. In 1950 Anna Mayberry, Past Worthy Advisor of the Westbrook Assembly, was elected to serve as Grand Worthy Advisor, Order of the Rainbow for Girls, State of Maine. She was also elected to the office of Supreme Hope and during the summer of 1950 filled her station at the sessions of the Supreme Assembly in California.

The present number of Assemblies in Maine is twenty and those at Bath and Sanford were instituted by the Westbrook Assembly whose present membership is one hundred forty-seven.

Much credit is due Mrs. Grace MacPherson for her painstaking work with these girls during the eighteen and one-half years while she served as Mother Advisor of the Westbrook Assembly which in large measure has helped to make this organization one of the finest in the state. Mrs. Aleda Currie has been the Mother Advisor for the past three years.

WESTBROOK COUNCIL, NO. 15, ROYAL AND SELECT MASTERS was organized when the following Companions, members of Portland Council No. 4, Royal & Select Masters, assembled at the office of John Wheeler & Son on February 7, 1891: Oliver A. Cobb, Charles A. Carlton, Robert S. Robinson, Fred H. Nickerson, William H. Hammond, John Wheeler, Alonzo Libby, David W. Babb, and George Warren Wheeler. Companions Hammond, John and George Wheeler were appointed a committee to see about a meeting place.

The next meeting was held at the same place on April 8, 1891 with all the members present except David W. Babb. They accepted the report of the committee on a meeting place and rented Society Hall in the Warren Block at Cumberland Mills for forty dollars per year. Meetings were to be held on the third Wednesday of each month until the membership reached fifty, at which time the rent was to be the same as other Lodges paid, plus ten dollars per year for the use of the Store Room.

The Council first met in Society Hall on April 15, 1891 with an abundance of enthusiasm and encouragement. Several committees were appointed and many applications received. Oliver A. Cobb was selected as Illustrious Master, Charles A. Carlton as Deputy Master, Robert S. Robinson as Principal Conductor of Work, and George Warren Wheeler as Recorder.

The Council continued to meet at Cumberland Mills until August 16, 1893 when they voted to move to Westbrook, meeting in the hall of Temple Lodge, A. F. & A. M. Their first meeting at Westbrook was held on September 20, 1893 with Charles A. Carleton as Illustrious Master and Oliver A. Cobb as Recorder, an office he held very capably until 1920.

Two members have served as Grand Master of the Grand Council of Maine, namely, Oliver A. Cobb in 1897 and Charles H. Hodgkins in 1945. These, with William H. Hamman, Arthur W. Ricker, John B. Winslow and Edward W. Rowe served as officers for many years. Many noteworthy events have taken place in the Council since its organization, and among its membership may be found the names of many prominent citizens of Westbrook.

PRESUMPCOT LODGE, NO. 4, KNIGHTS OF PYTHIAS was instituted April 11, 1872 by Deputy Grand Chancellor R. H. Ingersoll of Biddeford. The first officers and charter members were: William Brown, W.C.; Hiram B. Sproul, V.C.; David W. Babb, V.P.; Adelbert W. Shaw, W.R.C.; George D. Brown, W.F.S.; Noah R. Martin, M.D., Banker; Howard S. Babb, W.G.; Albert P. Verrill, I.S.; George G. Murch, O.G.; Isaiah D. Leighton, Stephen A. Emery, Leonard A. Hill, George F. Hunt, Henry Blatchford, Charles M. Brown, and Charles F. Brown. The ranks of the Order were conferred on the members by Bramhall Lodge No. 3, of Portland, in an all night session.

The Lodge met first in Odd Fellows Hall located on the upper floor of the Brackett Block, now the Lafond Block, at the corner of Main and Brackett Streets. William C. Brown

built the block where the Warren Memorial Library now stands, and the Lodge persuaded Mr. Brown to furnish a hall on the upper floor where, starting June 7, 1875, meetings were held. Later, S. D. Warren Company built the block on Cumberland Street and Ammoncongion Lodge of Odd Fellows and this Lodge furnished the lodge room together.

Presumpscot Lodge and four others organized the Grand Lodge of Maine on July 9, 1872, and two of its members were elected as Grand officers, Noah Martin, M.D. as Grand Banker and George D. Brown as Grand Guide. The Lodge has had two Grand Chancellors: William M. Warren and Carroll M. Richardson. Dr. Frederick E. Wheet who transferred to this Lodge was a Past Grand Chancellor. It has had three Grand Prelates: Charles F. Warren, Almon N. Waterhouse and Harold N. Lord, Sr., also a Grand Outer Guard, F. Perley Stanford.

On March 3, 1881, nineteen members withdrew to become charter members of Westbrook Lodge No. 27, which has ceased to exist. When Dirigo Lodge No. 21 of Gorham surrendered its charter twelve members united with this Lodge. Presumpscot Lodge, since its institution, has admitted five hundred and nine members, making in all five hundred twenty-five members. The first member to make application and be admitted was Hezekiah Elwell and the first member to die was Washburn Hurd.

CALANTHE TEMPLE NO. 21, PYTHIAN SISTERS of Westbrook was organized at Pythian Hall, Cumberland Mills, on January 15, 1907 by right of Consolidation, the members of Calanthe Assembly No. 5 being obligated into the Order of Pythian Sisters. The Order was originally founded on the principles of Love, Equality, Fidelity and Purity by Ida M. Jayne Weaver. Its object is humanitarian and fraternal. The orphan, the aged, the ill and the needy, find Pythian Sisters every ready to lend a helping hand in every way possible. Calanthe Temple No. 21 had a charter list of seventy-one Sisters. Knights were admitted at a later date.

There is one charter member in the Temple at the present time, Mrs. Calanthe Sylvester Chase. The Temple has had one Past Supreme Officer, Mrs. Abbie Warren Libby, and four Past Grand Officers: Mrs. Cora B. Stevens, Mrs. Emma R. Lang, Mrs. Wilma E. Jordan and Mrs. Bessie Smyth. The meetings are held the first and third Fridays of the month at Society Hall, Cumberland Mills, Maine.

THE IMPROVED ORDER OF RED MEN dates back to the Boston Tea Party, and its degree work exemplifies the mysteries of the aboriginal Indians and attempts to keep them alive. Pequawket Tribe No. 17 was instituted in Westbrook on March 11, 1888 with Luther A. Frank as the first Sachem.

The first meeting was held in Brown's Hall, later called Red Men's Hall, located in what is now the Warren Memorial Library at Cumberland Mills. The Tribe met there until 1949, when it was forced to move as the owners desired the whole building. Meetings were held in the Odd Fellows Block at the west end of the city for a time until the Tribe was disbanded and a few members joined the Tribe at North Gorham. They had had a grand record in the working of degrees, also in the care of ill members.

MINNEHAHA COUNCIL, DEGREE OF POCAHONTAS was instituted by R. M. Libby, Great Sachem and C. W. Foster, Great Keeper of Records, at Brown's Hall in Cumberland Mills on August 25, 1890. The degrees were conferred by Wenonah Council of Portland, with Mrs. Thomas Watson as the first Pocahontas. There were one hundred seven charter members of whom Mrs. Carrie Frank is the only one still a member after sixty-two years.

At present there are fifty-eight members, most of whom are past officers, and, of these, four have held the office of Past Great Pocahontas. The Council is still active and now meets in the Odd Fellows Hall in Westbrook.

THE CATHOLIC ORDER OF FORESTERS, a National

order organized in 1883, organized a Westbrook Chapter on June 8, 1900. The charter members were: Joseph E. Lebel, Amede C. Rousseau, Joseph Sampson, A. C. Gouzie, Doctor Adjutor Couturier, Joseph Guimond, Olivier Giguere, Henry G. Rocheleau, Augustin Sicard and Thomas Welch. From this small beginning the membership has grown to one hundred thirty in 1950. The order is unique in that it is a fraternal organization that sponsors a youth group called Rangers. Juveniles from birth up to nine years of age are known as Boy Rangers and from nine to sixteen are called Forest Rangers. During these periods degree work is given and, at the age of sixteen, they are ready to continue their activities as adult members. The Westbrook Chapter began its work with boys in 1948 and has, at the present time, an enrollment of twenty-nine members.

THE WESTBROOK COUNCIL NO. 2219, KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS, was founded on January 9, 1921. There were fifty-eight Charter Members: Alexis Huard, Albert J. Duclos, Peter Melanson, Leon N. Casey, Rev. William J. Culbert, Charles Ledoux, Arthur Fournier, Albert J. Twombly, John J. Brisold, Msgr. Philip E. Desjardin, John L. O'Gara, Aime J. Guimond, Lawrence M. Powers, Damien Pelletier, Leo J. Burke, Frank J. Buotte, Florida Fortin, H. Leroy Welch, Leo J. Welch, Daniel W. Foley, John Donovan, Henry P. Proulx, John L. W. Girard, Wilfred E. Girard, Joseph Kenney, Ovila J. Duclos, Joseph G. Pomerleau, Vincent Doherty, Archille Fournier, Martin T. Foley, Arthur J. Arseneault, Archie Thuotte, John E. Welch, William J. Foye, Hormidas A. Lafond, Dr. Adjutor Couturier, Charles Heydrie, Joseph A. Belanger, Charles J. Fournelle, William Afthim, Albert Brassard, Arthur L. Leighton, John P. Burke, Edward M. Powers, Patrick H. Welch, Emile Huard, A. G. Wilson, William S. Byrne, Louis J. Betty, Alfred Decormier, Odilon Fredette, Leo M. Feeney, Theodore J. Tourangeau, Arthur A. Driscoll, George J. Duncours, Arthur Tourangeau, Joseph E. Hollerin, and Harry Reddin.

Of these Monsignor Philip E. Desjardin and Daniel W. Foley are the only two who are still active in the Council. The first Grand Knight was Alexander Wilson, installed by District Deputy George W. Donnelly of Portland.

The Council grew steadily until about 1930, then became more or less inactive because of the depression and other factors. In 1948, Leonard J. Porell was elected Grand Knight and was instrumental in creating new interest and starting a revival of activities.

ST. RITA'S CIRCLE NO. 498, DAUGHTERS OF ISABELLA, was organized in the city of Westbrook in 1929. The Charter was drawn on the 20th of October with twenty charter members. The first business meeting was held November 8, 1929 in the Knights of Columbus Hall in the Benoit building and was conducted by Mrs. Annie Radcliffe, who was the national organizer at that time. The first slate of officers and charter members were: Regent—Exilda Charland, Vice-Regent—Alice McCormick, Honorary Past Regent—Mary E. Kenney, Custodian—Evelyn Moreau, Chancellor—Margaret O'Gara, Monitor—Bella Gregoire, Financial Secretary—Gertrude M. Kenney, Scribe—Sylvia Robinson, Inside Guard—Nora Perkins, Outside Guard—Laurette Doucette, First Guide—Betty Duguay, Second Guide—Oressa Leighton, Banner Bearer—Rose Porello, Trustee for three years—Hazel Welch, Trustee for two years—Clara Sheridan, Trustee for one year—Mary Ouellette, Organist—Anna Hebert, Marshal—Alexandra Gallant; Elizabeth Welch, Lumina Boissonneau, Mary Mulligan, Ida Gagnon, Anna Turgeon, Josephine Powers, Elizabeth Golden, Marie Vincent, Josephine Fournier, Amandine Turgeon, Agnes Moreau, Anna Moreau.

The motto of the Daughters is "Unity, Charity, and Friendship." The chief aim is Charity. At Thanksgiving, Christmas, and Easter a large basket of food is given to a needy family and, during the year, if some family is known to be in need it is helped.

The Daughters of Isabella is an International Catholic

Organization having over 100,000 members with National Headquarters in New Haven, Connecticut. In 1951 two new circles were formed in the Philippine Islands.

The local Circle is twenty-one years old and two members have held offices for long terms. Exilda Charland, the first Regent, served in that chair for nineteen years, sixteen of which were consecutive years. At one time Mrs. Charland was elected to be one of the State Officers but, because of poor eyesight, she was forced to refuse the office. Rose Porello, now Rose Labrecque, has been Financial Secretary for twenty-one years.

At the present time there are two hundred members in St. Rita's Circle, Daughters of Isabella.

HIGHLAND LAKE GRANGE NO. 87, PATRONS OF HUSBANDRY was organized January 11, 1875 as Westbrook Grange No. 87. Thirty charter members were enrolled: Alvin Woodbury, William H. Jordan, James H. Gowen, David H. Gowen, Nathaniel Hale, Sumner Sawyer, Darius Lowell, Thomas J. Ward, Martin Swett, Abner Lowell, Neander Hawkes, Levi Gowen, Melville Hawkes, James Gowen, Jr., William Sawyer, Hitry Shenault, William Smith, Thomas Knight, Ansel Pride, Mrs. Mary Lowell, Mrs. Louisa Soule, Mrs. Philena Barbour, Mrs. Clara Ward, Mrs. Fanny Hardy, Mrs. Clara Gowen, Mrs. Adelaide Shenault, Mrs. Mary A. Gowen, Thomas Hawkes, Martha Frank and Eunice Sawyer. David H. Gowen was the first Master elected.

For the first fourteen years meetings were held in the upper room of the schoolhouse. The present hall was built in 1889 on a lot purchased from Cornelius Pride. Serving as a Building Committee were James H. Gowen, James L. Hardy and James F. Hawkes. The dedication of the hall took place in October of that year.

The Grange in 1933 voted to request a change in name from Westbrook Grange No. 87 to Highland Lake Grange No. 87. The new charter was hung in place February 15, 1934. The average membership down through the years

has been around sixty and is ninety-eight at the present time.

SACCARAPPA GRANGE, NO. 481, PATRONS OF HUSBANDRY, was organized August 22, 1907 at Grand Army Hall, over the present Vallee Pharmacy at the corner of Main and Bridge Streets. W. S. Larrabee was the organizer, assisted by E. H. Libby, State Secretary, and Mildred L. Ingersoll, a former member of West Peru Grange No. 391. The first Master was George C. Pike and the first Secretary Mable G. Robinson. There were twenty charter members, three of whom are still members of Saccarappa Grange: Mrs. Geneva P. Haskell and Mr. and Mrs. Fred Dolley. The Grange name, 'Saccarappa' was chosen at the organization meeting.

Grange meetings have been held in Grand Army Hall, Vallee Square; Mechanics' Hall or Porter's Hall at the corner of Seavey and Main Streets; Red Men's Hall, in what is now the Warren Memorial Library; and Society Hall in Cumberland Block, the present meeting place. In its forty-four years Saccarappa Grange has contributed to local projects and filled many offices in Pomona Grange.

In 1930 a tree was placed in Riverbank Park in honor of one of the founders of the Grange. Saccarappa Grange was instrumental in the organization of Forest City Grange at Peaks Island. Two of the present officers have served the Grange over twenty-five years, one as Secretary twenty-nine years, the other as Treasurer for twenty-seven years. The present membership is two hundred twenty-eight, including one who has been a member in Maine Grange for fifty years.

RECHAB DIVISION NO. 4, SONS OF TEMPERANCE was organized by John B. Thorndike and other members of the Portland Division on the evening of September 20, 1883, in the Warren Church Vestry, with twenty-eight charter members as follows: John E. Warren, James Graham, Mrs. James Graham, Edward A. Andrews, Nathan Wight, William Bragg, Frank Gustin, Mrs. A. Barbour,

Nellie Paine, Jennie G. Andrews, Fannie Cannell, Earl B. Merrill, William P. Varnum, Fred Stevens, Nellie Pearson, Arthur Cash, Isaac N. Blackwood, Rena Heald, Ansel Stevens, Peter S. Graham, Laura E. Graham, Eliza A. Babbidge, Ione B. Bragdon, E. B. Newcomb, Lottie Cash, Charles Edwards and E. A. Anderson.

Beginning November 19th meetings were held in Brown's Hall, later called Red Men's Hall, located in what is now the Warren Memorial Library at Cumberland Mills. On April 13, 1887 a change was made to Golden Cross Hall on Main Street opposite Rochester Street where meetings were held until March 26, 1903, the last being held September 26, 1903 at the home of Jacob S. Bragdon. During its twenty years of existence it has initiated over six hundred members among whom were teachers, executives, public officials and the best sheriff that Cumberland County ever had, King F. Graham. With the coming of other organizations with insurance features, membership gradually declined. Always working in harmony with the churches, it helped to keep the temperance and prohibition standards at a high level in Westbrook.

THE WOMAN'S CHRISTIAN TEMPERANCE UNION of Cumberland Mills was organized October 13, 1887, with the election of the following officers: Mrs. Emily Morrill, Pres.; Mrs. Laura E. Graham, V. Pres.; Miss Cora L. Abbott, Sec.; Mrs. Hugh Woodside, Treas. Records are incomplete but known charter members included Mrs. John E. Warren, Mrs. Elizabeth Cotton, and Mrs. Vena Hall. Seven departments were formed at that time: Evangelistic, Social Purity, Flower Mission, Narcotics, Young Women's Work, Sunday School Work, and Woman's Suffrage. One of the first acts of the group was to place Temperance literature in boxes in railroad stations, barber shops and other public places.

The first public meeting of the organization was held March 3, 1888 in Golden Cross Hall, located on Main Street opposite Rochester Street. Speakers included Rev. O. H. Wallace, pastor of the Advent Church, William P. Varnum

of Cumberland Mills and Mrs. L. M. Little of South Windham. Similar public meetings were an annual event for many years.

In 1891 the first essay contest was sponsored by the Cumberland Mills W. C. T. U. in the grammar schools of the city. Students were invited to write essays on the subject "Narcotics", and three prizes were awarded the winners. These essay contests were held regularly until 1936.

A Loyal Temperance Legion was formed in 1905. The first meeting was held in the Warren Congregational Church with Miss Lucretia Woodside as leader. The Loyal Temperance Legion is a children's division of the Woman's Christian Temperance Union. The L. T. L. was inactive until 1936 when it was reorganized under the direction of Mrs. Susie McDade with Mrs. Doris (Drisko) Wing as leader, Mrs. McDade later became leader of the group. The children were taught temperant living. They carried out such projects as sending gifts and letters to children at the Sanatorium at Hebron, Maine, and distributed food and gifts in their own community. Under the sponsorship of the L. T. L. Speech Contests were held, with medals as prizes, and pupils of all the grade schools in the city participated. It is gratifying to note that this L. T. L. was awarded a Silver Cup from the State of Maine Convention for outstanding achievement.

From 1887 - 1935 Cumberland Mills W. C. T. U. had but three Presidents. The first President, Mrs. Emily Morrill, served from 1887 - 1910. Mrs. Laura E. Graham served as Vice President during the same years before assuming the office of President, which she held from 1910 - 1921. The third President, Mrs. Edwinna R. Wyer, Secretary of the organization from 1913 - 1921 when she became President and served from 1921 - 1935, and, 1940 - 1941. Under the leadership of Mrs. Edwinna R. Wyer much charitable work was done in the community providing Thanksgiving Baskets and Christmas Gifts for inmates of the Westbrook City Farm, as well as supplying needy local families with clothing.

The name of Mrs. Elizabeth Knight was well known in

both the local and State W. C. T. U. She served as Recording Secretary of the Cumberland Mills W. C. T. U. from 1902 - 1910. In that year she organized the Westbrook Woman's Temperance Union, serving as President until her death in 1939. She also served as Cumberland County President of the W. C. T. U. from 1909 - 1932. After her death the Westbrook members united with the Cumberland Mills group, and a special fund to be called the Elizabeth Knight Fund was set aside for Temperance Education Work with children.

THE AMMONCONGIN LITERARY CLUB, organized in 1892 and federated in 1893, is the oldest federated women's club in Westbrook. Mrs. Emmaline Jackson, with the help of Mrs. George C. Frye and Mrs. E. H. Osgood of Portland, two pioneers in club work, organized the club and was its first president. The object of the club is "the mutual improvement of its members in literature, science, art and current events of the day." Meetings are held on alternate Wednesdays at 3 P.M. in the homes of members. Highlights of the year, October to April, are papers written and read by members, speakers on subjects of interest, an annual musical program, and an exchange program each year with the Cosmopolitan Club of Gorham. An annual field day is held in June. The year closes with a luncheon meeting in April.

For over fifty years the club has maintained a room at the Maine Home for Boys in Portland. The drinking fountain in Riverbank Park was a gift of the club. A tree from the Frank E. Roberts farm on East Bridge Street was planted in the park by club members. Reference books have been placed in the library for use of High School students. The club also furnished all the silver and linen for the Domestic Science courses in the Westbrook schools. An audiometer was placed in the schools by the club. Thru the use of a scholarship fund maintained by the club many deserving High School students have been able to continue their studies. Since 1938 the principle project of the club has

been the maintaining of the furnishings and equipment in the Children's Room at the Walker Memorial Library.

For nearly sixty years, the Ammonconglin Literary Club has not only maintained a program for the mutual improvement of its members, but has also worked unceasingly upon projects for the general benefit of the City of Westbrook.

EXCELSIOR CLUB: On November 9, 1896, a group of women met at the home of Mrs. Clifford (Nellie Woodside) Bragdon, Lamb Street, at her invitation, to promote the formation of a Literary Association. The primary object of this association was to be the mutual improvement of its members in literature, art, and the vital interests of the day. Nine were present, and became the charter members of the club, Mrs. Bragdon being considered the founder. Two of the charter members, Mrs. Ruetta Hawkes and Mrs. Minnie Bragdon, are still active in the club. Other charter members and first officers were: Mrs. Clifford Bragdon, President; Mrs. Minnie Bragdon, Vice-President; Mrs. Lewis Waterhouse, Secretary and Treasurer; Mrs. Eulita Newcomb, Mrs. Etta Eastman, Mrs. Ada B. Graham, Mrs. Kate G. Woodside, Miss Jennie Andrews.

After the Association had held a few meetings, the members decided they would like a new name and, at that time, there was in the City of Portland, a club named "Excelsior." A committee from the Association visited this club to observe how it conducted its affairs, and to ask if there would be **any** objection to using the name for the Westbrook Association. The Portland club readily approved the idea and thus the Excelsior Club of Cumberland Mills came to be. As the club grew and expanded it unconsciously dropped the phrase, "of Cumberland Mills" and became the Excelsior Club of Westbrook. In 1911 the club became a Federated Club.

There have been many interesting events in the life of the Excelsior Club. Perhaps the most outstanding was the celebration of its 50th anniversary which took place at the Country House, Falmouth in 1946. At this observance the charter members were especially honored.

THE CURRENT EVENTS CLUB is the third oldest woman's club in Westbrook. It was organized in 1898 and the first members were from a small reading club called the George Eliot Reading Circle. Miss Mary Dana, sister of the late Mr. Woodbury K. Dana, was the president of the Reading Circle, and at her suggestion, the Current Events Club was formed with a limited membership of twenty-five with meetings being held every week.

Mrs. Lewis W. Edwards was the first president and the first printed program was that of 1899-1900. A motto was adopted—"The more things thou learnest to know and enjoy, the more complete and full for thee will be the joy of living". This has persisted through the years as the activities and accomplishments show.

A reserve fund was established with money from musicales and other entertainments. In 1901, through the kindness of Mr. and Mrs. Alexander Speirs, the club was given the proceeds from the advertisements in a Memorial Day edition of the Westbrook Gazette. This helped the fund greatly, and pictures were purchased for different schools, books were bought for the Company "M" library, and cutlery for the cooking school. Later this fund was changed to a Scholarship Fund and money has been loaned through the years to many different High School honor pupils.

One of the loved members of the Club, Mrs. Mary Allen Worthley, was vitally interested in this fund and did much for it. She passed away in 1910 and the following year the name of the fund was changed to the Mary Allen Worthley Scholarship Fund, and so remains.

The club has given aid to many worthy organizations and worked on many civic projects. Meetings were held every week from October to May until 1925 when a change was made to every two weeks, and the membership limit raised to thirty-five. Programs through the years have been quite varied, with articles written by the members at one time but always on current events. During the recent years it has become the custom to have speakers on various subjects provide the programs with someone of note on guest days.

THE CHOPIN CLUB was organized on June 24, 1919 by the late Mrs. Marion Wentworth Theis. Its object being the mutual improvement of the members in music. There were fourteen charter members. As the meetings are held in private homes the membership is limited to twenty-five.

About the year 1925 the Chopin Club became affiliated with the Maine Federation of Music Clubs. Since the Federation observes the second week of May as Music Week the Chopin Club has always during the week presented a program for the public. This has sometimes been in the form of a recital or a silver tea and, one year, programs were presented at several of the Service Clubs.

The Chopin Instrumental Trio, comprised of Mrs. Kathleen Lenneville, piano, Mrs. Veronica Flaherty, cello, and Mrs. Dorothy Moore, violin, is one of the very few such groups in the City. They have played together for nearly twenty-five years and have represented the Club at many social affairs as well as doing radio work and playing for several years at the High School graduation.

There have been sixty-eight members during the twenty-two years since the Club's organization. The Chopin Club has enjoyed reciprocity programs with Music Clubs from other places, namely the Kotchmar Club, The MacDowell Club, and the Marston Club, all of Portland, and the Annie Louise Cary Club of Gorham, music providing the common interest.

THE WESTBROOK WOMAN'S CLUB was started on October 15, 1919, when a small group of women of Westbrook met by invitation to consider the formation of a woman's club. Mrs. Tressa Small acted as chairman and after discussion it was voted to organize the Westbrook Woman's Club with the purpose of establishing better understanding between the club women of the East and West divisions of the city; of stimulating the intellectual life of the members; of encouraging hospitality among them; and of promoting practical charity.

On October 22, 1919 the following officers were elected:

President, Mrs. Tressa Warren Small; 1st Vice President, Mrs. Katherine Shute Eastman; Recording Secretary, Mrs. Mamie Babb Fick; Corresponding Secretary, Mrs. Mildred Ward Burnham; Treasurer, Mrs. Bertha Babb Sutermeister; Auditor, Mrs. Eleanor Welch Joy; Board of Directors, three years, Mrs. Gertrude Gould Pickard (1st Chairman), Mrs. Mabel Clark Anderson; two years, Mrs. Florence L. Lowell, Mrs. Marion H. Andrews; one year, Mrs. Irene Goodridge Pennell, Mrs. Eunice Goff Chase (1st Secretary).

The objects of the club have been altered to the following:

- (1) To stimulate the intellectual life of its members.
- (2) To promote the practice of charity.
- (3) To maintain and extend the spirit of hospitality.
- (4) To co-operate with our city in civic improvement.

On February 3, 1920 a gavel made from two pieces of wood from the Blaine Mansion was presented to the club by Mrs. Pickard and Mrs. Fick.

The Club was admitted to the State Federation of Women's Clubs on March 23, 1920.

Under the first objective of the club the programs have been varied and have included some of the ablest of speakers and entertainers. Subjects have included music, art, politics, religion, drama, crafts, and humor.

Under the second objective of the club, charity has been dispensed through the years by giving food and clothing to the needy at Thanksgiving. At Christmas, food, clothing and toys have been given. This has been carried out by cooperating with the charitable and civic organizations in the city. At the present time financial aid is given for minor operations and medical care under the supervision of the District Nurse. In 1946 a Greek family on the Island of Crete was adopted for one year and food, clothing and other necessities were sent to help them re-establish themselves.

Under the third objective of the club the spirit of hospitality is ever present at the club meetings and is further extended by the observation of special guest days.

Under the fourth objective of the club a great deal of

time, thought and money has been spent on civic improvement. Some of the outstanding contributions from 1920 through 1951 have been: general clean-up, paint-up campaign; luncheon for high school pupils; milk for public school children under supervision of school nurse; purple beech tree planted in Riverbank Park; recommended city-wide garbage collection; aided in purchasing motion picture machine for High School; paid for supervisor for Riverbank Park Playground; erection of street signs; erection of signs of welcome at city entrance; sterilizing unit was purchased for use in First Aid Station in High School, later to be used by Public Health Nurse; alternate meetings held in Cumberland Hall for Red Cross work; for six years sponsored a Youth Center called "Teen Haven", meeting each Saturday night; joined Westbrook Health Council and sponsored publication of "Highlights of Westbrook History".

From the beginning of the club some effort has been made to build a club house and a fund was created for this purpose. In 1943 the club received the gift of a house on Stroudwater Street from the estate of the late Mrs. Mary B. Spear which was to be used as a club house. This house was later found to be unsuitable for use as such, and was sold in 1949. A special building committee is ever on the alert for a desirable tract of land on which a club house will be built sometime in the future.

THE WESTBROOK GARDEN CLUB was organized on the nineteenth day of January, 1934, with a membership of four; Mrs. Asenath Dyer, Mrs. Mary Perry, Mrs. Mary Fluette and Mrs. Odile Burke. Mrs. Dyer was the first president and during that year a garden was planted in Riverbank Park. By 1939 the club had become very much interested in the Federation of Garden Clubs of Maine and on May 2, 1939 became affiliated with that organization.

By 1940, with the help of Mr. Ansel B. Sterling, the club undertook the planting of shrubs and lilacs at Westbrook High School. On September 27, 1950 dedication exercises were held as a climax to a year's work on the public park

at the rear of the Walker Memorial Library. The two acre tree shaded plot will be improved each year as a near-to-nature outdoor reading room. Much credit is due to the president, Mrs. Oswald McFarland, for this remarkable accomplishment. The present membership is thirty-five.

THE WESTBROOK EXTENSION GROUP is associated with the Extension Association or Farm Bureau as it was formerly called, which was started in the South, when demonstrations of better farming practices were put on because of crop failures. In 1914 4H clubs were formed and, in 1917-18, women began to organize in their kitchens. These kitchen clinics are still popular. The Extension Association meetings are still demonstrations, and the agent in each county is called a Home Demonstration Agent. This service is now active in every state of the union, also in several other countries.

The first group in Westbrook was organized October 29, 1935 by Mrs. Agnes Gibbs with the following charter members: Mrs. Pearl Jepson, Mrs. Mable Morris, Mrs. Frank Robie, Mrs. Jennie Berry, Mrs. Nancy Lane, Mrs. Ella Pomeleau, Mrs. Amy Crozier, Mrs. Mildred Trueworthy, Mrs. Almon Staples, Mrs. Geneva Haskell, Mrs. Alice Trumbull and Mrs. Bertha Hadlock. Now there are also Extension Groups at Pride's Corner, Highland Lake and Cumberland Mills.

The aim of the Extension Association has always been to instruct in all things pertaining to better homemaking, including the study of foods, fabrics, interior decorating, budgeting and time saving devices. At one time a course was given in nutrition, with certificates for those who completed it. These courses are extended to groups by the University of Maine.

THE WESTBROOK BUSINESS AND PROFESSIONAL WOMEN'S CLUB received its charter and became the twenty-fourth club of the Maine State Federation of the National Federation of Business and Professional Women's

Clubs, Inc., on April 16, 1951. The club was organized on February 27, 1951 with thirty-six charter members.

The first slate of officers was as follows: President, Christine P. Libby; 1st Vice President, Corinne Turgeon; 2nd Vice President, Doris D. Wing; Recording Secretary, Muriel H. Cairnes; Corresponding Secretary, Bernice Woodman and Treasurer, Winnifred L. Clarke.

A Business and Professional Women's Club was organized in Westbrook in May, 1922 but dropped out of the Federation at the end of the year 1926-27.

"The aims and purposes of the National Federation are to elevate the standards for women in business and the professions; to unite women across the country to work for legislation advantageous to women who work and for legislation for the social and economic advancement of all; to increase opportunities and facilities for job training; to promote more and improved vocational guidance and education for leisure; to help women to advance themselves; to standardize wages; to improve living and working conditions; and to bring about a spirit of cooperation among business and professional women." (Quoted from Handbook of Federation Procedures.)

The program of the National Federation is developed to realize the objects for which the Federation is organized, and individual clubs plan their yearly programs to include all aspects of this National program.

The Westbrook Business and Professional Women's Club meets twice monthly, on the first and third Wednesday evenings at 8:00 P.M. in Veteran Firemen's Hall, Quimby Avenue, Westbrook, Maine.

THE WESTBROOK ROTARY CLUB was organized by fifteen business and professional men who gathered at the Westbrook Tavern on December 24, 1925. This was the first service club to be organized in Westbrook.

By charter night, April 6, 1926, the club had a membership of over thirty. Harry F. G. Hay, the first president, received the club charter from William B. Jack, of the

Portland Rotary Club, who represented Eaton D. Sargent, governor of the Eighth Rotary District. Approximately two hundred and twenty-five Rotarians and guests attended and speakers of the evening included: Ralph O. Brewster, Governor of Maine and a Rotarian, Austin H. MacCormick, Secretary of Bowdoin College, Fred A. Gordon, President of the Portland Rotary Club and Edward L. Pickard, President of the newly organized Westbrook Kiwanis Club.

The club is unique in that as many members live outside the city as within it, Gorham, Standish and Windham being represented. The club has always stressed work with the youth of the communities. In 1926, "Boys' Week" was instituted with seniors in the High School being candidates for elective offices in the city government and the winners taking over the management of the city for one day. This became an annual event, later extending to Gorham and including both boys and girls. The youth program has included sponsoring essay contest, scholarship awards, a Memorial Day road race, summer camp awards and entertainment of a student guest each month, alternating between Gorham and Westbrook High Schools. The basketball teams from Gorham and Westbrook, with their coaches, have been entertained annually at a special dinner and program meeting. The outfitting and organization of a "Boys' Band" consisting of forty pieces won for the club the Rotary District "Best Award" in 1930. This band attracted state-wide attention and acclaim from its featured appearances at different functions throughout the State over a period of years.

Westbrook Rotary has long recognized its obligation to discover any need for community service and to enlist the aid of the entire community. The members have given generously of their time, material and effort in working with other Service Clubs or organizations where cooperative endeavor would benefit the community at large. Thus, "Service Above Self" is carried on by the over fifty members of the Westbrook Rotary Club.

KIWANIS CLUB OF WESTBROOK, MAINE: In the

fall of the year nineteen twenty-five, there was in the city of Westbrook but one Service Club, namely that of Rotary International. The Westbrook Rotary Club was at this time not more than one year old.

It was through the initiative and unceasing efforts of International Organizers, the late Walter Harmon and Major Edward E. Philbrook, together with Eugene LaMontagne and Leroy Welch, that Kiwanis International became permanently established in Westbrook. This gave to this industrial community another very important Service Club, one that has become well known for its ever-expanding program for the underprivileged child.

The evening of March 16, 1926 was a gala night for all concerned with the affairs and activities of Kiwanis, for this was the Charter Night of the newly formed and very active club.

Festivities were held at the Falmouth Hotel, Portland, Maine, where the welcome was delivered by Mayor John Lawrensen. The acceptance of the Kiwanis Charter was in the very able hands of the first president of Kiwanis in Westbrook, Edward L. Pickard.

Thirty-six citizens comprised the Charter Membership list as follows: Austin A. Alden, Harry D. Brooks, William H. Cape, Andrew C. Cloudman, F. Harold Cloudman, Harry C. Crowell, Fred M. Eugley, Dr. F. Leslie Ferren, Oscar A. Fick, John R. Fortin, Stanley E. Goff, Walter F. Haskell, Dr. Louis L. Hills, Leonard T. Hoar, Dr. Ralph H. Hutchinson, John W. Knight, Eugene LaMontagne, Benjamin T. Larrabee, Orrin L. Miller, Leigh B. Motherwell, Edward L. Pickard, Ernest O. Porell, Omer C. Porter, Merritt G. Pride, Dr. Harold K. Rice, Arthur L. Saunders, Harry W. Saunders, Killey E. Terry, Harold J. R. Tewksbury, Horace H. Towle, George H. Twombly, Hormidas Vincent, Leon E. Waterhouse, H. Leroy Welch, Dr. Ralph M. Whitney and Dr. John B. Winslow.

The club now has sixty-six active members, six Privileged Members, and two Military Members.

Westbrook Kiwanians have not only given much toward

the betterment of the lives of the boys and girls in the city, but have ever had the vision and enthusiasm to reach out into other neighboring communities to form Kiwanis Clubs. First came the Standish Club, then the co-sponsorship of the Gorham Club, and today members can boast of the first sponsored Suburban Kiwanis Club in Maine, that of the newly formed Pride's Corner Kiwanis Club.

THE WESTBROOK LION'S CLUB was organized on January 21, 1929, by a group of men, representative of the business and professional interests of the City of Westbrook, to promote a closer business and social union among them; to encourage active participation in the civic, commercial, social and moral welfare of the city; to build friendship, good fellowship and mutual understanding; to encourage full and free discussion of all matters of public interest; and to promote high ethical standards in business and professions. Its charter was presented by the International Association of Lion's Clubs, the largest service organization in the world. The first officers and charter members were: Percival Batchelder, King Lion; Frank L. Wellcome, 1st V. P.; Philip T. Verrill, 2nd V. P.; Grover Welch, 3rd V. P.; Preston McLucas, Sec.; Lemuel G. Babb, Treas.; Sanford Purington, Tail Twister; F. D. Anderson, Kendrick Burns, Eugene Cummings, Dr. Willard Cressey, Wayland Hendrickson, Grover C. Hooper, A. Erlan Mosher, Arthur J. Mullen, William H. Palmer, Victor Pendexter, Herbert L. Rand, Ernest R. Rowe, Raymond B. Rowe, Forrest E. Walker, and Dr. Frederick Wheet.

One of the major projects of Lion's International is the care of the blind and sight conservation, so the new club immediately started the work of caring for sight of underprivileged school children, and during the years all such children have been provided with glasses. Yearly Christmas parties have been given to the poorer children of the city. Money is raised for these and other charitable purposes by an annual show and by personal contributions from the club members.

At its regular weekly meetings a free forum is held for the discussion of civic and national affairs, and other educational subjects. Discussion of partisan politics and religious topics are forbidden by the constitution.

KIWANIS CLUB OF PRIDE'S CORNER: On May 7, 1951 an informal gathering was held at the Community Hall at Pride's Corner to discuss whether there was any interest in a Kiwanis Club being formed at Pride's Corner. Thirty-three attended, including Lieutenant Governor Watkins of the Eighth Division of Kiwanis of New England; Ernest O. Porell, President of the Westbrook Kiwanis Club; and Edward M. Powers, Fred Lincoln Hill and Irvin Finney, also of the Westbrook Club, plus twenty-eight from the Pride's Corner area. Twenty-two men present in the area signed indicating their desire to become members.

As is necessary in the forming of a new Kiwanis Club, it must be sponsored by another club, and, in this case, the Westbrook Club assumed sponsorship. Weekly meetings were continued and the Kiwanis Club of Pride's Corner, which is the first suburban Kiwanis Club in Maine, was duly organized on June 6, 1951 by a representative of Kiwanis International, Chicago. The first officers and charter members were: Joseph L. Huse, President; Wilfred N. Rosenblad, 1st Vice President; Raymond Francoeur, 2nd Vice President; George F. Trueworthy, Treasurer; Herbert P. Cilley, Secretary; Dr. David Berlowitz, Kenneth M. Cole, Rev. David Coleman, Donald Collins, Orrin E. Dolley, Ramon L. Douglass, Warren A. Eldridge, Ralph C. Harper, Walter F. Hawkes, Stanley G. James, Forrest L. Jannell, Charles W. Lewis, Dr. Roland B. Moore, John M. Nelson, Clyde H. Nichols, Harold G. Pride, Richard A. Scott, Ervin H. Searway, Charles J. Thomas, Harland M. Thompson, Merton E. Rawson, Jr., George H. Twombly and Harold G. Wescott. The Charter was officially received on August 1, 1951 at a party at the Eastland Hotel in Portland.

In line with the motto of Kiwanis International—WE BUILD—the club has made that its one aim. All the efforts

of the club have gone into developing the playground area at the new Pride's Corner School. Since its organization the club has raised in five months approximately \$3,500.00. Nearly \$3,000.00 has already been spent on the playground. This included removing about one thousand cubic yards of top-soil, part of which was sold, and the proceeds put back into the playground, and part used for landscaping. Shrubs have been set out in front of the school building, one hundred seventy-five pounds of grass seed sown, and a pipe for a water line laid to the center of the playground area. Playground equipment, costing approximately \$700.00, has been purchased and installed: eight ten foot swings, one castle tower, one merry-go-round, one two-position see-saw, one sixteen foot chute, and one portable ten foot chute. At the present time there are forty-three members in the club.

CHAPTER 12

WESTBROOK OF TODAY

SINCE the day that the Falmouth Proprietors granted Saccarappa Falls to Benjamin Ingersoll, Joshua Bayley, Benjamin Larrabee, Jr. and Company, a great transformation has taken place. The wilderness has been transformed into a city of substantial industries and well appointed homes. No longer is heard the hum of many saw mills, the heavily loaded ox-teams are no longer seen on our streets, and the famous Saccarappa mud of those early days has given way to smoothly paved streets suitable for automotive transportation. The candle and oil lamps of long ago have been replaced by the electric light and the steam engine by gas and Diesel engines. The old hand tub fire pump has been superseded by powerful gas driven engines and a modern fire alarm system now takes the place of the ringing of church bells as a fire signal.

These transformations represent only a few of the many changes that have taken place through the years. While the increase in population has not been spectacular it has been steady with an increase in one hundred years from 4,852 in 1850 to 12,280 in 1950. Westbrook citizens remember with satisfaction the Centennial celebration held in 1914.

That year marked an important era in the city's history. The members of the Westbrook Board of Trade, at their annual banquet held in Presumpscot Hall on February 10, 1914, suggested that all citizens assist in preparing a suitable celebration commemorating the one hundredth birthday of their city. William B. Bragdon was president at that time with Leroy H. Rand as secretary, and these two men had much to do with the success of the celebration. The Anniversary Executive Committee consisted of members of the Board of Trade with Mr. Rand acting as chairman, Oscar G. K. Robinson, Mayor of Westbrook, John Lawrensen, George Gray, William L. Peavey and Lewis Hogan. There were some twenty-one other committees and seven sub-committees, so that with this vast array of interested citizens

working together the celebration was a great success.

It started Sunday, June 7th, with special services appropriate to the occasion, augmented by some of the best musicians of the state. At one-thirty in the afternoon there was a sacred concert at Riverbank Park by the Westbrook City Band; at three a big religious mass meeting was held at the Warren League grounds with an address by the Honorable Carl E. Milliken on "Good Citizenship" and music by Chandler's Band.

Monday, June 8th, was Children's Day. At nine in the morning a parade, including fifteen hundred school children, marched from Bridge Street to the Warren League grounds where addresses were given by two prominent speakers. The Honorable Oliver Winship of Westbrook spoke on "Old Time Schools", and Mr. Walter E. Russell, Principal of Gorham Normal School, on "The School of Today". The children, under the direction of Miss Carrie B. Phinney, sang several songs accompanied by Chandler's Band. At two that afternoon there was a baseball game at the Warren League grounds between the "Old Presumpscots" and the "Old Yarmouths". At three o'clock canoe races were held for both men and women and, in the evening, there was a canoe pageant with over one hundred canoes participating.

Tuesday, June 9th, was Westbrook's one hundredth birthday and, at ten o'clock, a baseball game was played between the Portland New England League team and an all Westbrook team. Later, one of the largest parades ever held in the state took place. Over one thousand military men from Forts McKinley and Williams, the entire Coast Artillery of twelve companies and the Naval Reserves participated with nearly as many members of Civic, Trades and Fraternal Organizations represented. There were many beautiful floats and music was provided by Westbrook City Band, Chandler's Band, American Cadet Band and Fort Williams Band. At two o'clock that afternoon came the dedication of the new Riverbank Park with the Westbrook City Band providing music for the occasion. At the same hour there was a Field Artillery Drill by the Naval Reserves on Scotch Hill and a

ball game at the Warren League grounds between a Warren Mill team and a Dana Mill team. At the Cumberland Mills Playground an athletic meet was held with fourteen interesting events on the program. The concluding event of the celebration was one of the most spectacular displays of fireworks ever shown east of Massachusetts.

The Portland Daily Press of June 10, 1914 gave a full account of the celebration, ending with the following statement: "There was not an uninteresting section in the whole parade; every float and every company of marching men and boys offered the same neat appearance. It was a parade worthy of a city of hundreds of thousands of inhabitants."

The final official act of the celebration did not take place, however, until December 18, 1914, when a large boulder, transported from Rocky Hill to Riverbank Park, was made ready as a monument to the Centennial Celebration. A brief ceremony was held at the park when, after a prayer by the Reverend E. Townsend, a sealed box of heavy metal containing records of the Centennial Celebration, newspapers, photographs of the parade and a packet enclosed in lead foil was embedded in a small opening left in the sub-base of the monument. The base and sub-base were then firmly cemented. On a metal plate attached to the monument was the following inscription:

This stone contains records of the 100th anniversary of the City of Westbrook.

Occurring June 9th, 1914.

This stone is to be opened and records read at the 200th anniversary, June 9th, 2014.

Erected by the Board of Trade.

The following letter by William B. Bragdon, President of the Westbrook Board of Trade, was enclosed in the sealed box:

Westbrook, December 18, 1914

To whom it may concern or the community that may represent what was the City of Westbrook on the above date, which we trust may be considered in 2014 under the same name, City of Westbrook.

We give to you a greeting, and trust that the documents found within the sealed box, facts and figures may be of interest to all concerned.

The document, herewith, came to hand late and therefore was not included with the contents of the box, as you will find.

The box and contents were sealed in the monument this day, December 18, 1914, (Friday).

Very truly for the City of Westbrook,

Signed W. B. Bragdon

President Westbrook Board of Trade

For many years Westbrook has been an industrial city though, through the years, several of the older industries have been discontinued and new ones have located here. Among those locating here since 1900 is the Saunders Brothers Dowel Mill which manufactures dowels and wood products. The company was founded in North Waterford, Maine, in 1901. In order to keep its location near a good supply of white birch, the mill was moved several times to Bingham, Bridgton, and to Dorset, Vermont. By 1918 the founders, Arthur L. and Harry W. Saunders, felt that the use of motor trucks had diminished the need for a location close to a supply of raw material. Consequently, they moved that year to Westbrook, which offered a chance to bring in wood on the Maine Central Railroad and at the same time provide a good shipping center both by rail and steamship. At that time, a large part of their production was shipped to England.

Their first mill in Westbrook was on Rochester Street near the Cumberland Mills Railway Station and employed about eight people. In 1919 it was moved to its present (1951) location near the railroad off Forest Street and employs about one hundred people, with a branch mill at Whitefield, New Hampshire. The management is now in the hands of the second generation, Robert W., H. Warren, and Donald K. Saunders, with the third generation being represented by Hugh C. and Henry W. Saunders.

The mill uses white birch and other hardwoods obtained chiefly from the drainage of the Saco River. The principal products are dowel rods, which have such varied uses as toy and furniture parts, blanks for pen holders, lollipop and flag sticks, and handles for umbrellas, brushes, and kitchen ware. Wood shavings, which would otherwise be waste, are baled and sold locally to farmers for bedding and mulch. Saunders Brothers' products are shipped to every state in the Union, as well as to England and South Africa.

In 1944 the Blue Rock Quarry located here on the dividing line between Westbrook and Portland and covers an area of forty-seven acres. The company was organized for the manufacturing and merchandising of crushed stone and bituminous and ready-mixed concrete which would meet construction specifications and supply the need in the Portland and Westbrook areas. The stone found here is classified by the National Crushed Rock Association as trap rock.

In quarrying this rock the drilling is accompanied by the use of well and wagon drills, and blasts totaling twenty-five thousands tons are not uncommon. This ledge rocks is processed through a crushing plant and reduced to six different commercial sizes at the rate of approximately one thousand tons per day. The quarry has a fifteen car siding for bulk cement storage. The ready-mixed concrete plant has a capacity of five hundred cubic yards per day and is designed for wet or dry batching. The plant is equipped to receive bulk cement and stone aggregates either by rail or by truck. Eight Smith & Ransome high-discharge mixers are used for the delivery of the concrete.

A testing laboratory under the supervision of skilled technicians is located in the office building and is equipped with all the facilities required to perform A. S. T. M. tests. Mr. Richard W. Shields is the present manager of the company.

The Wright Spinning Company, a division of the Lincolnsfield Mills Corporation of Lincoln, Maine, opened its plant in Westbrook in 1946 in the building formerly owned and occupied by the Haskell Silk Company. The new plant was equipped with new machinery of the latest type to produce worsted yarn to supply the weaving plant in Lincoln. Mr. Duncan Wright is president of this company.

The Sebago-Moc Company came to Westbrook in 1946 and located in the Wright Spinning Company building. Manufacturing commenced in July and from a modest production of five hundred pairs of shoes a day the daily output has grown to sixteen hundred pairs. The entire production is devoted to hand sewn and machine sewn loafer type footwear for both men and women. Distribution is nation wide

with selling offices in New York and Los Angeles, with representatives covering the entire United States.

The Westbrook branch of Kieckhefer Container Company turned its first operational wheel on May 1st, 1949, becoming the twenty-second manufactory of the Kieckhefer Container Company and the Eddy Paper Corporation, one of the largest manufacturers of corrugated and fibre shipping containers in this country.

The completion of the new plant, with a floor space of approximately two acres, at 100 Hawkes Street, culminated many years of location study and planning. Employing an average of one hundred men and women, this plant services the needs of the many agricultural and industrial operations in Maine and throughout New England.

The business section of our city has grown through the years and has served not only Westbrook but outlying districts as a shopping center. The first "Westbrook Board of Trade" was organized at Long Island (Casco Bay) at a field day held on August 23, 1905, with six members and was known as "The Westbrook Merchants' Association". After its affiliation with the Maine State Board of Trade in 1906 the name was necessarily changed to "Westbrook Board of Trade". This year the membership was twenty-eight but, by 1911, the enrollment had reached two hundred twenty-two. Some years after 1914, with the loss of some of its most enthusiastic supporters, the organization ceased to function for a time. It was reorganized in 1948 under the name of "Westbrook Chamber of Commerce", with Mr. Linwood Royal as President, Mr. August Albert, Vice President, Mr. Edwin Carr, Jr., Secretary, Mr. Leo LaFond, Treasurer and six directors.

Westbrook Trust Company, organized in 1891 under a special charter granted by the Legislature of 1889, provides banking service for the city. At that time there was no law authorizing the organization of trust companies but, it was through the efforts of the Honorable Fabius M. Ray, a member of the legislature, that the charter was granted. The first officers were: President, Leander Valentine; Vice President,

John C. Scates; Treasurer, Russell D. Woodman. A large modern bank building was built on Main Street in 1916 and later a branch bank was established at Cumberland Mills.

An interesting experiment in the establishment of a Single Tax Colony was started in 1912 under the village name of Halidon. Halidon Village is located on land a short distance below the S. D. Warren paper mills in the Cumberland Mills section of Westbrook. It comprises one hundred seventy-two acres, of which one hundred twenty served as the foundation of the trust of Halidon. The land consists of a low plateau some sixty feet above the Presumpscot River.

The original trustees were William Price, Frank Stephens and Fiske Warren. Many persons became interested in the project at the beginning and, through the efforts of Miss Lillian Quinby, plots of land were freely taken, even by those not intending to build, and Halidon was enabled to organize as a community in the autumn of 1912. It had its beginning in the faith of a few men, confident that some of our social problems could be solved if there were a sane continuance of just social conditions. The leaders of this philosophy believed that the fundamental evil of present day social conditions was the private ownership of land and the monopoly and speculation which resulted from it. Halidon was founded as a village where these conditions would be corrected, as nearly as existing laws would allow, by yearly collections for communal purposes of full economic rent of land, in accordance with the philosophy of the Single Tax taught by Henry George.

In 1926 about half the residents of the community were persons employed by the S. D. Warren Company. The rents ranged from \$7.14 to \$17.38 an acre and there were sixteen dwelling houses and one store. The assessed valuation was \$17,250; land \$4,600 and buildings \$12,650, with thirty-one lessees. While State laws do not encourage the Single Tax philosophy, the community has continued to carry on for thirty-nine years. The loss by death during recent years of several of the project's most ardent supporters has left the colony without leaders. As a result, a change is to be made

in the near future in regard to the method of tax collection as it applies to Halidon. In 1951 the residents paid a city tax on houses but not on land. It is expected that after several adjustments as to deeds have been completed, the method of tax collection will conform with the city's regular taxation procedure.

Through the years have come many civic improvements, one of which was the establishment of a hospital in 1909 by Dr. Felix Barrett of Westbrook. Since his death it has been known as Westbrook Hospital. It is small, but efficient, and serves not only Westbrook citizens but those of nearby communities.

Westbrook also has a District Nursing Association and Health Center that is not excelled by that in any city of comparable size in the state. Westbrook is said to have been the first place in Maine to establish such an organization.

The Westbrook District Nursing Association was organized in 1910 by Mrs. Edward L. Pickard, for the purpose of safeguarding the health of Westbrook babies and to give part time nursing care to the 'sick poor.' Miss Rhoda Ashworth, R.N., was the first nurse employed and, on her resignation in 1913, Miss Marjory Hall, R.N., assumed the post of district nurse, serving the community faithfully for more than thirty years.

In the early days traveling was done by hired horse and buggy, calls were 25c, and the Association was supported by yearly membership drives, whist parties and church collections. In 1919 the Association was incorporated. The Red Cross gave \$1,000 to establish a Health Center and the Dana Warp Mill gave office and clinic space on Bridge Street, rent free, which is still used.

Baby clinics were started in 1921 attended by local doctors and, during the depression, general clinics were held twice a week with the doctors. In 1933, date of the bank holiday, the financial situation in the city was bad and the bank balance of the Association was exactly \$5.37. The storm was weathered, however, with the assistance of interested citizens and the help of the Warren and Dana Mills, both of which have been ever generous in their support.

From these beginnings the Westbrook District Nursing Association has grown into one of the best public health organizations in the State of Maine and is the only one to have a complete generalized program. The Association furnishes bedside nursing service under doctor's orders to any resident of Westbrook, carries on a full program of public health teaching and maintains a well baby clinic the last Thursday of each month.

In 1949 the industrial nursing work was undertaken for the Dana Mill. Public School nursing was assumed by the Association the same year and the best recognized methods of health teaching and health surveys have been followed. The same program has been carried on in the Parochial Schools. In connection with school nursing work, the nurses have cooperated with the School Department in a program of Fluorine administration and T. B. chest X-rays. The Association works with the City Health Officer in offering free vaccinations to the public once a year.

The work is carried on by a staff of three nurses and an office secretary with two automobiles available for the use of the staff. The Association has benefited by several bequests, has had liberal support from the Westbrook Service Chest, and has received \$500 annually from the city.

Westbrook has several public parks and playgrounds. Riverbank Park, dedicated on the last day of the Centennial celebration, is located midway between the east and west ends of the city. Its name was suggested by the late Honorable John E. Warren. Mr. Warren had a pathway built from the old swimming pool along the bank of the Presumpscot River to the grounds of Riverbank Park. In order that no building enterprise could destroy the plans he had made he bought, and held for many years, the land which eventually became the park, paying the taxes and finally selling it to the city for the original purchase price.

In 1950 the beautiful shaded area at the rear of the Walker Memorial Library was dedicated as a public park. Through the efforts of the Westbrook Garden Club and with the aid of organizations and individuals the grounds have been land-

scaped, garden plots developed and a terrace built to provide for outdoor reading. The rose garden was contributed by the American Legion as a memorial.

At the rear of the Warren Memorial Library, along the edge of the river, is the Westbrook Community Association Playground. Though the playground had been used for many years by members of the community and kept up with Miss Cornelia Warren's help, it was not until 1925 that the Cornelia Warren Community Association, Inc. was founded. It was organized from instructions in Miss Warren's will, in which she left a sum of money and some property to be used for that purpose. Since then the Association has been run for the benefit of the inhabitants of Westbrook by the trustees of this fund with Mr. Joseph Warren as president. The playground provides tennis courts, supervised summer activities for children, paths along the river and a softball diamond, known as Fraser Field in honor of "Ginger" Fraser who was the director of activities for the Association from its start until his death in 1938. In 1948 a \$40,000 swimming pool was built on the grounds through the generosity of the city, the industries of Westbrook and private subscriptions.

Across the Presumpscot, and nearer the west end, is a new playground opened in 1950. The land for this was donated by the Dana Warp Mill, cleared, prepared and equipped by the city.

Pride's Corner has its own Community Club. It was organized in 1937 to aid the Pride's Corner Union Church and the community as a whole in promoting good fellowship and sociability within the area. Its first officers were: President, Frank Weeks; Vice President, Arthur Russell; Secretary-Treasurer, Ruth Weeks. At first, meetings were held in the Eldridge garage or home but, in 1938, the club was incorporated and a lot of land, adjoining the church property, was given by Frank Foster for the purpose of building a Community Club. The new building was dedicated on June 5, 1939 and, with the help of the whole community, was completely paid for in 1944.

Many other organizations have brought help and recrea-

tion to the young people of Westbrook. One event which many children remember with great pleasure is the annual fishing derby held at Beaver Pond by the Westbrook Rod and Gun Club. Prizes are furnished with the help of the merchants of the city and the event is always very well attended.

Groups of Campfire Girls and Boy and Girl Scout Troops provide the young people with an opportunity for learning many useful habits and crafts. Prior to the organization of the Portland Council of The Boy Scouts of America in September 1919, there was Scouting in Westbrook. The early history of Scouting in the city is difficult to trace since actual Council Records date back only to 1927. Scouting has grown through the same pattern here as it has all over the nation, from Troops 1 and 2 of those early years to the seven troops and two Explorer Units currently registered with the Boy Scouts of America.

In 1912, two years after the founding of the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 1 of Westbrook originated with Mr. Maurice Ross as Scoutmaster and Mr. Maurice Hawkes as assistant. Alexander Jones became Scoutmaster in 1916 and, with the help of the sponsors, Miss Cornelia Warren of Boston, Mr. and Mrs. Edward L. Pickard, Harry Grant and Edward Hinckley, had a very active group.

The Reverend Mr. MacDonald assumed leadership of the troop in 1926 and, in October 1931, the troop was renumbered, becoming Troop 84 under the sponsorship of the Warren Congregational Church. In 1935, Merrill Luthe became Scoutmaster, with the troop featuring a crack Drum and Bugle Corps. The present leader, in a succession of leaders, is Robert Clift. A one year charter to sponsor a Cub Scout Pack was issued to the Warren Congregational Church in 1934 under the leadership of Harry L. Teague.

Troop 2 was formed by Harry Pride, who remained leader for twenty-five years. The name of Harry Pride will long be remembered in the history of Westbrook Scouting. The troop was sponsored by a group of interested citizens called the Congin Men's Club, among whom Earl MacFarland, Joseph Whitman, Robert Bancroft and Joseph Small were prominent.

As early as 1926 or 1927 there was a Junior Scout organization sponsored by the supporters of Harry Pride. This was a forerunner of Cub Scouting, but had no official status. In November 1934, a Cub Pack was formed with Earl Pride as Cubmaster and Hiram B. Rich as committee chairman. This unit was the little brother to Troop 2. In 1940 Harry Pride retired and Carl Loveland accepted the leadership of the troop, re-registered as Troop 27, with Howard W. Stevens as assistant. Congin Men's Club having been dissolved, Westbrook Lion's Club offered to act as sponsor. The troop was merged with Troop 84 in 1948.

It was about 1927 when the Cumberland County Council was organized and changed the scouting program in some respects, combining under one headquarters all Scout Troops in Cumberland County. At this time troops in Westbrook lost their original numerical identifications and were renumbered. Somewhere between the years of 1925-1930 Harry Pride's Troop became known as Troop 27, though it will always be remembered as the famous Troop 2.

In 1931 the Westbrook Congregational Church received its charter to sponsor Troop 83. The first Scoutmaster was the Reverend Ray Gibbons and the first committee included Kenneth Stone, Harry Saunders and Harry Brooks. This troop has had a very active record and is at present one of the strongest troops in the city with Leslie Marston as leader. Cub Scouting was officially launched in 1946 when Iota Rho Sigma sponsored Cub Pack 83. Charles Thoits, Jr. was the leader with Hugh Morton and John Hay as a Pack Committee. The mothers of the boys play an important part in Cubbing and Mrs. Hugh Morton, Mrs. Ivory Tuttle and Mrs. Donald Saunders served as Den Mothers for this first Pack.

Scouting under Catholic auspices was initiated in Westbrook by St. Mary's Parish in 1940. Troop 81 had as its first Scoutmaster, Harry Redden and the troop committee included Leroy Welch, Leavitt Smith, Thomas Larravee and Fred Huntress. In 1944, Owen Gallagher was appointed Scoutmaster and the sponsorship was taken over by the St. Mary's Men's Club.

Troop 87 was started by St. Hyacinthe Parish in 1945 with Mr. Raymond Cote as Scoutmaster and Raymond Beatty as assistant. From the beginning the troop has been supported by Wilfred Boulanger, Charles Vaillencourt, Ovide Letarte, Alphee Martin, Oscar Rocheleau and Hormidas Gagne, members of the original troop committee. In 1946 Landry Barrieau became Scoutmaster and is serving his sixth year in that capacity.

The Trinity Lutheran Church sponsored Troop 88 in 1946 with Phillip O. Allen as first Scoutmaster with the Reverend Otto Nielsen as chairman of the troop committee. Other members were Milton Allen, Edwin Jensen, Maurice Swan and Peter Mickus, present Scoutmaster.

Very recently two new troops have been formed. In 1950 a troop was sponsored by the Pride's Corner Community Club. It was designated as Troop 27 with Donald Collins as Scoutmaster and Adam Waterhouse, assistant. The first unit had been a Cub Pack sponsored by the Pride's Corner Union Church. Troop 89 was sponsored by the Men's Club of the Universalist Church in 1951 with William Gordon as Scoutmaster and Lester Clarke as assistant.

Senior Scouting was started in Westbrook with a Sea Scout Patrol in Troop 2 in 1934. In 1940 the unit was separated as Sea Scout Ship 27A with Clifton Boutelle as Skipper. At present it is sponsored by the Westbrook Kiwanis Club with Stanley S. Mitchell as Skipper.

In 1948, under the sponsorship of the Saccarappa Grange, another branch of Senior Scouting, an Air Squadron was started with Henry Wing as leader. Fred Wright is the present Squadron Advisor.

In Scouting there is an award, the Silver Beaver, which is the highest honor awarded to volunteer adult Scouters. The following Westbrook men have received this award: Harry L. Pride, and the Reverend Roderick MacDonald for their years of service as leaders, and Mr. Everett P. Ingalls for his services on a district and council level and also as a former president of the Pine Tree Council.

Girl Scouting in Westbrook began in 1919 when Mrs.

Harry Pride organized Troop 2, sponsored by the Methodist Church. After three years she had to discontinue this work, but entered Scouting again in 1927 when she organized Troop 1, continuing to work with Girl Scouts until 1936. Mrs. T. James Brown and Mrs. Ordway Furbish started work in 1936 with the Girl Scouts of Westbrook, both as leaders and Council members. Mrs. Furbish later became Girl Scout Commissioner and, with Mrs. Boardman Havey, started Senior Scouting activities in Westbrook. The first District to be organized by the Girl Scout Council of Greater Portland was started in Westbrook in 1950 with Mrs. Kenneth Stone as chairman. The Westbrook Service Chest co-operated financially with the Portland Community Chest in supporting the Council.

At present there are four sponsoring organizations in the city: Pride's Corner Community Club, St. Mary's Catholic Church, Warren Congregational Church and Westbrook Congregational Church with sixty-nine adults and two hundred and sixty-seven girls registered in Brownie, Intermediate and Senior troops.

Certificates of appreciation have been presented by the Council to Mrs. Clarence Skillings and Mrs. Paul Gaudreau for their valuable contribution to Girl Scouts. Mrs. Boardman Havey was presented a Thanks Badge, symbol of outstanding service, for her work with Westbrook Scouts, and as director of the Girl Scout chorus of Greater Portland.

Campfire Girl groups were founded by Mr. and Mrs. Luther Gulick in 1912 while they were summer residents at Sebago Lake. The first group in Westbrook was formed in 1915 by a group of seven girls with Miss Nellie Potter, a high school teacher, as their Guardian. This group was active until 1919 when Miss Potter left Westbrook.

In 1926 another group was organized in Cumberland Mills with Miss Ethelyn Percival, another high school teacher, as Guardian. The following year Mrs. Ralph Prince took over the Guardianship of this group and, by 1930, it had expanded to the limit of twenty members so that another group was formed with Mrs. Leigh Hoar as Guardian.

Since that time interest has grown and other groups have been organized; one, in 1943, with Mrs. R. C. Van Der Voort as Guardian, another in Cumberland Mills, in 1948, with Mrs. Earle Haley as Guardian, and several groups of Bluebirds have been formed for the seven to ten year olds. In all there are at present a total of seventy girls participating in the program of crafts and activities to promote good citizenship.

Among the many young people who have grown up in Westbrook and made names for themselves in various fields, one especially has helped to make the name of Westbrook nationally known. Hubert Prior Vallee, better known as Rudy, moved to Westbrook when a boy. Here, his father, a pharmacist, started a drug store, where later Rudy worked while attending high school. Finding that the profession of pharmacy was not to his taste, he left the store and his home, and went to work in the Star Theatre as assistant projectionist at \$7 per week, later transferring to the Strand Theatre in Portland.

Rudy was interested in music from the time he was a boy, starting with drums, trying the clarinet, and at last, spurred on by some Rudy Wiedoeft records, settled for a saxophone. He entered the University of Maine in 1921 and transferred to Yale University in 1922 where he earned his way by playing in dance bands. In 1927 after receiving his Ph.B. at Yale, he formed his orchestra, the Connecticut Yankees, which played at the Heigh Ho Club in New York City. It was in 1928 that his music was first broadcast over the radio from station WABC and his popularity as a singer began. Since that time he has been featured on many radio programs, including the Fleischmann and the Sealtest programs. He has made numerous movies since he first starred in "The Vagabond Lover" in 1929; his autobiography "Vagabond Dreams Come True" was published that same year; and he has since written articles for several radio magazines. At present he is the president of Vallee Video, a firm which makes commercial and entertainment films for television, as well as carrying on his career as a singer, orchestra leader, and star of movie and radio.

Another young man who has made a name for himself in the entertainment world is Camille Huard, born in Westbrook in 1912, and known today as Lawrence, or "Larry," Brooks. His mother died when he was four and he was brought up by his aunt, Mrs. Alexis Huard. While attending St. Hyacinthe School and Westbrook High School, he was interested in public speaking, sang in the choir and glee club and also studied voice and the violin. During his high school years Larry was in many plays both at school and in various club productions. After graduation in 1932, he joined the Portland Players while continuing his singing lessons. His first voice teacher was the late Mrs. Katherine Keenan and he later studied with Miss Marcia Merrill, both of Portland. He was also greatly encouraged by Mr. Howard Stevens, director of the Portland City Choir, and by Wilfrid Tremblay, organist.

After studying in New York at the Estelle Leibling Studios, Larry obtained a job as staff singer for the National Broadcasting Company, and later sang over WTIC in Hartford, Connecticut, for three years. While singing at the Copacabana in New York, he was offered a screen test by a Warner Brothers screen scout which came to nothing, but while on the West Coast he was offered the lead in the musical play, "Song of Norway" which ran for two years in New York and for another year on the road. Since then he has sung in several radio shows, including his own Ford show, made many records, appeared in several plays and operettas, and at present is working on a musical play based on the life of Edgar Allan Poe.

Over the years many from the younger generations have left Westbrook to live in larger communities, but many have also remained to build on the firm groundwork laid by the courage and accomplishments of the founders. Today Westbrook citizens may point with pride to its past achievements while looking forward to a hopeful future.

MAYORS OF THE CITY OF WESTBROOK

1891-	Leander Valentine (R)
1892-	Mahlon H. Webb (D)
1893-94	A. A. Cordwell (R)
1895-96	W. W. Cutter (R)
1897-	Francis A. Cloudman (R)
1898-99	King S. Raymond (Cit. '98 and Dem. '99)
1900-01	Jacob L. Horr (R)
1902-04	Joseph A. Warren (R)
1905-06	Rufus K. Jordan (D)
1907-08	Seth C. Morton (D)
1909-10	Harry F. G. Hay (R)
1911-15	O. K. K. Robinson (D)
1916-	Otis S. Trafton (R)
1911-15	O. G. K. Robinson (D)
1919-	William B. Bragdon (R)
1920-	Willis H. Duran (R)
1921-23	John Lawrensen (R)
1924-	Charles S. Tuttle, Jr. (R)
1925-	Eugene I. Cummings (D)
1926-	John Lawrensen (R)
1927-	Eugene I. Cummings (D)
1928-	Walter F. Haskell (R)
1929-31	Eugene I. Cummings (D)
1932-	King F. Graham (R)
1933-35	Rufus K. Jordan (D)
1936-	Carroll M. Richardson (R)
1937-41	Roscoe F. Libby (D)
1942-44	H. Ordway Furbish (R)
1945-50	Ernest O. Porell (D)
1951-	Alan Taylor (R)
1952-	Richard Libby (D)
1946 -	Ernest R. Cotton (R)

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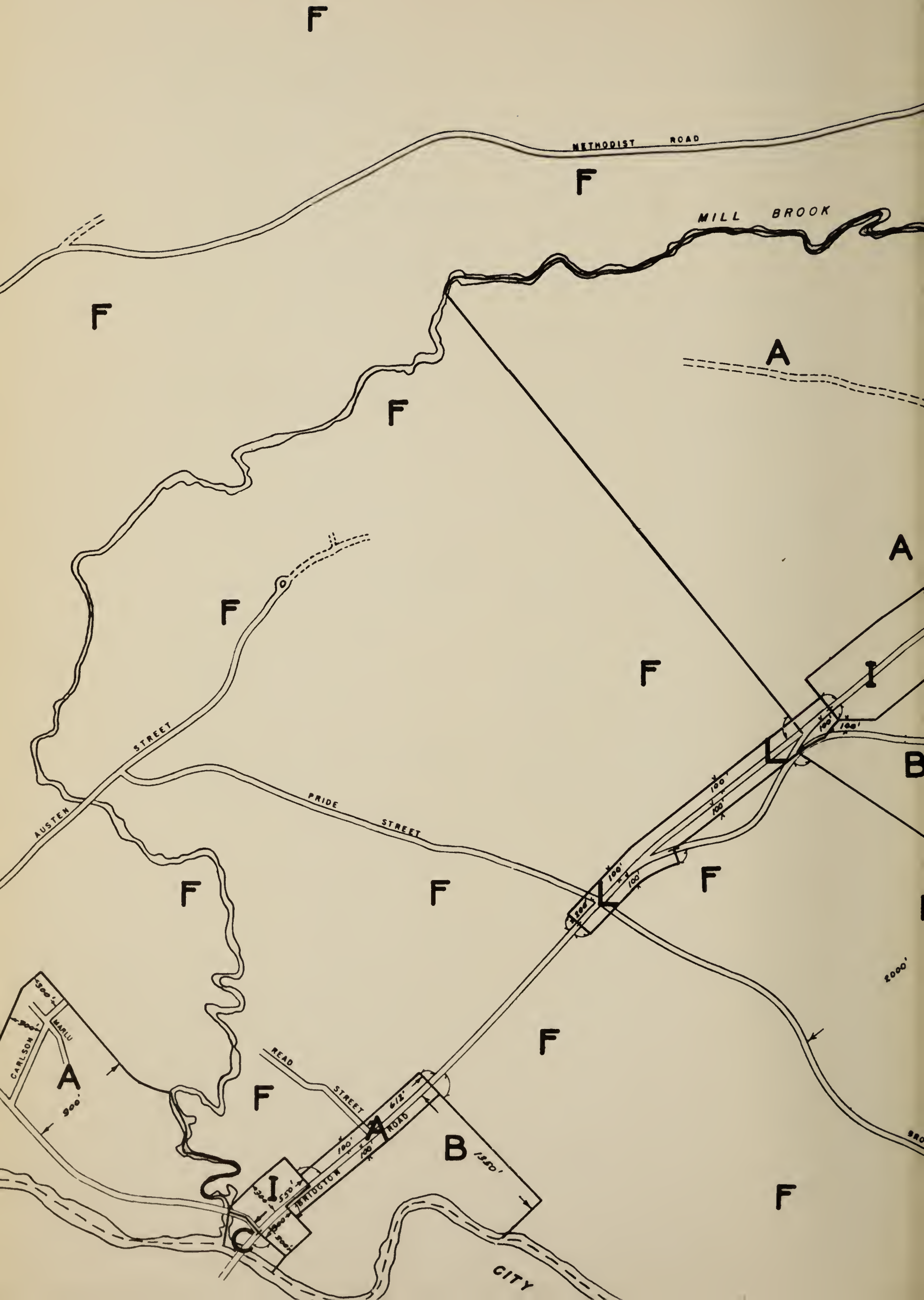
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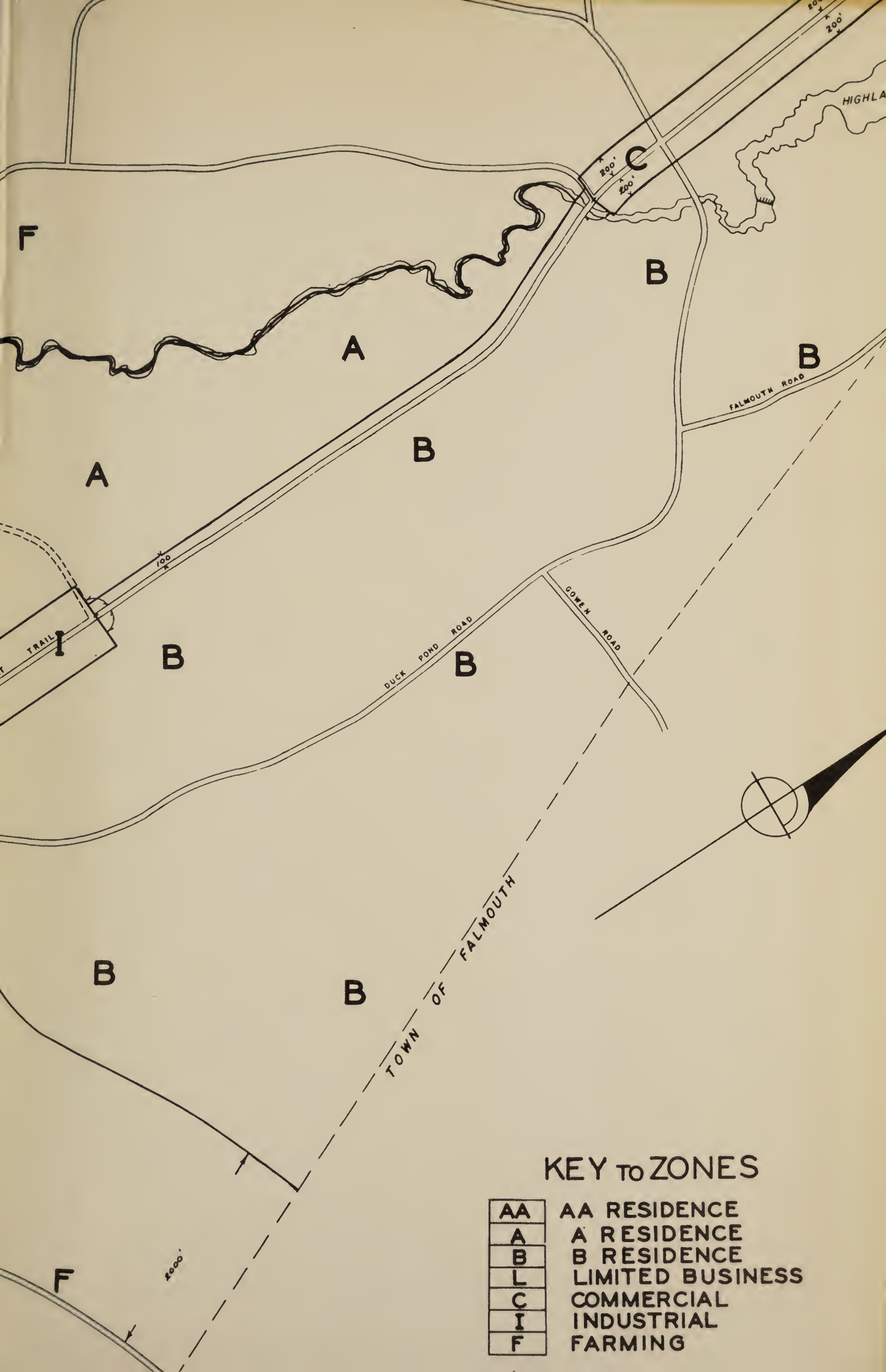
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KEY TO ZONES

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A	A RESIDENCE
B	B RESIDENCE
L	LIMITED BUSINESS
C	COMMERCIAL
I	INDUSTRIAL
F	FARMING

